

# LABOUR FORCE

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 12 MAR 2015

## KEY FIGURES

	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Jan 15 to Feb 15	Feb 14 to Feb 15
<b>Trend</b>				
Employed persons ('000)	11 640.0	11 654.0	14.0	1.3 %
Unemployed persons ('000)	778.7	781.6	2.9	8.3 %
Unemployment rate (%)	6.3	6.3	0.0 pts	0.4 pts
Participation rate (%)	64.7	64.7	0.0 pts	0.1 pts
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>				
Employed persons ('000)	11 636.8	11 652.4	15.6	1.3 %
Unemployed persons ('000)	793.1	777.3	-15.8	7.3 %
Unemployment rate (%)	6.4	6.3	-0.1 pts	0.3 pts
Participation rate (%)	64.7	64.6	-0.1 pts	0.0 pts

## KEY POINTS

### TREND ESTIMATES (MONTHLY CHANGE)

- Employment increased to 11,654,000 from a revised January 2015 estimate.
- Unemployment increased to 781,600 from a revised January 2015 estimate.
- Unemployment rate remained steady at 6.3%.
- Participation rate remained steady at 64.7%.
- Aggregate monthly hours worked increased 3.1 million hours to 1,611.0 million hours.

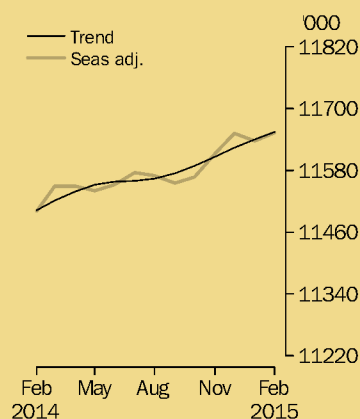
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES (MONTHLY CHANGE)

- Employment increased 15,600 to 11,652,400 from a revised January 2015 estimate. Full-time employment increased 10,300 to 8,062,000 and part-time employment increased 5,300 to 3,590,400 from a revised January 2015 estimate.
- Unemployment decreased 15,800 to 777,300. The number of unemployed persons looking for full-time work increased 2,800 to 553,000 and the number of unemployed persons only looking for part-time work decreased 18,600 to 224,300.
- Unemployment rate decreased 0.1 pts to 6.3%.
- Participation rate decreased 0.1 pts to 64.6% from a revised January 2015 estimate.
- Aggregate monthly hours worked increased 13.0 million hours (0.8%) to 1,620.8 million hours.

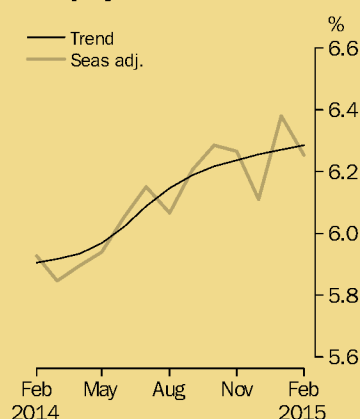
### LABOUR UNDERUTILISATION (QUARTERLY CHANGE)

- Trend estimates: The labour force underutilisation rate increased 0.3 pts to 15.1%.
- Seasonally adjusted estimates: The labour force underutilisation rate decreased 0.1 pts to 14.9%. The male labour force underutilisation rate remained steady at 13.1%. The female labour force underutilisation rate decreased 0.1 pts to 17.1%.

### Employed Persons



### Unemployment Rate



## INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070, email [client.services@abs.gov.au](mailto:client.services@abs.gov.au) or Labour Force on Canberra (02) 6252 6525, email [labourforce@abs.gov.au](mailto:labourforce@abs.gov.au).

# NOTES

## FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
March 2015	16 April 2015
April 2015	7 May 2015
May 2015	11 June 2015
June 2015	9 July 2015
July 2015	6 August 2015
August 2015	10 September 2015

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## WHAT'S NEW IN THE LABOUR FORCE

This issue includes estimates rebenchmarked to the latest population estimates and projections. For details see page 8. What's new in the Labour Force on page 7 mentions two upcoming changes - the annual seasonal reanalysis to be incorporated in the March 2015 issue and the proposed timing for introducing new Labour Force outputs. This issue also includes an article on the take up rate of the online Labour Force questionnaire.

## CHANGED TIMING OF MARCH 2015 RELEASES

To enable the results of the annual seasonal reanalysis to be fully validated before being incorporated into the Labour Force series, the March 2015 issue of this publication will be released on 16 April not 9 April as previously advised. As a consequence Labour Force, Australia, Detailed (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) will be released on 23 April.

## ROUNDING

Estimates of change shown on the front cover and used in the commentary have been calculated using unrounded estimates, and may be different from, but are more accurate than, movements obtained from the rounded estimates. The graphs on the front cover also depict unrounded estimates.

## SAMPLING ERROR

The estimates in this publication are based on a sample survey. Published estimates and the movements derived from them are subject to sampling variability. Standard errors give a measure of sampling variability (see Standard Errors section). The interval bounded by two standard errors is the 95% confidence interval, which provides a way of looking at the variability inherent in estimates. There is a 95% chance that the true value of the estimate lies within that interval.

## MOVEMENTS IN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES BETWEEN JANUARY 2015 AND FEBRUARY 2015

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	<u>Monthly change</u>	<u>95% Confidence interval</u>	
Total Employment	15 600	-42 400 to 73 600	
Total Unemployment	-15 800	-56 200 to 24 600	
Unemployment rate	-0.1 pts	-0.5 pts to 0.3 pts	
Participation rate	-0.1 pts	-0.5 pts to 0.3 pts	

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David W. Kalisch  
Australian Statistician

## FEBRUARY 2015 ESTIMATES

As part of the change program implemented from early 2014 to enhance the analysis of labour market dynamics, the first Participation, Job search and Mobility supplementary survey\* was conducted in conjunction with the February 2015 Labour Force Survey. The independent technical review of the Labour Force Survey, released on 9 December 2014, concluded that changes to the supplementary survey program were the major reason for volatile Labour Force estimates from July to September 2014 and that particular care should be taken in the months when new supplementary surveys are conducted. In response to the independent review the ABS introduced a set of prior corrections, with the October 2014 estimates, which removed this source of volatility from the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates. The same methodology has been used to estimate and remove the impact of the Participation, Job search and Mobility supplementary survey from the February 2015 data. Please see the article *Removing the effect of supplementary surveys from seasonally adjusted estimates* from the October 2014 Labour Force publication for further details on the correction methodology.

The ABS recommends using trend estimates, at both national and state levels, to analyse the underlying behaviour of the series. Care should always be exercised when using the original estimates as they contain irregular, seasonal and systematic influences, including impacts from the timing of supplementary surveys. The seasonal and systematic influences are estimated and removed from the original series to produce the seasonally adjusted estimates. For further information on seasonal adjustment and interpreting time series, please refer to *1346.0.55.003 Interpreting time series: Are you being misled by the seasons*.

\* The Participation, Job search and Mobility supplementary survey combines four previously separate supplementary surveys: Labour mobility was conducted biennially from February 1992 to February 2012 and repeated in February 2013; Job search experience was conducted annually in July each year until 2013; and, Persons not in the labour force and Underemployed workers were conducted annually in September each year until 2013. In February 2014 Job search experience, Persons not in the labour force and Underemployed workers were conducted together.

## NATIONAL ESTIMATES

Australia's unemployment rate decreased 0.1 percentage points to 6.3% in February 2015 (seasonally adjusted) with:

- the number of unemployed persons decreasing by 15,800 to 777,300,
- the number of employed persons increasing by 15,600 to 11,652,400, and
- the participation rate decreasing 0.1 percentage points to 64.6%.

The seasonally adjusted underemployment rate was 8.6% in February 2015, a decrease of 0.1 percentage points from November 2014 based on unrounded estimates. Combined with the unemployment rate of 6.3%, the latest seasonally adjusted estimate of total labour force underutilisation was 14.9% in February 2015, a decrease of 0.1 percentage points from November 2014. In trend terms, the underemployment rate increased 0.2 percentage points to 8.7% in February 2015 and total labour force underutilisation increased 0.3 percentage points to 15.1%.

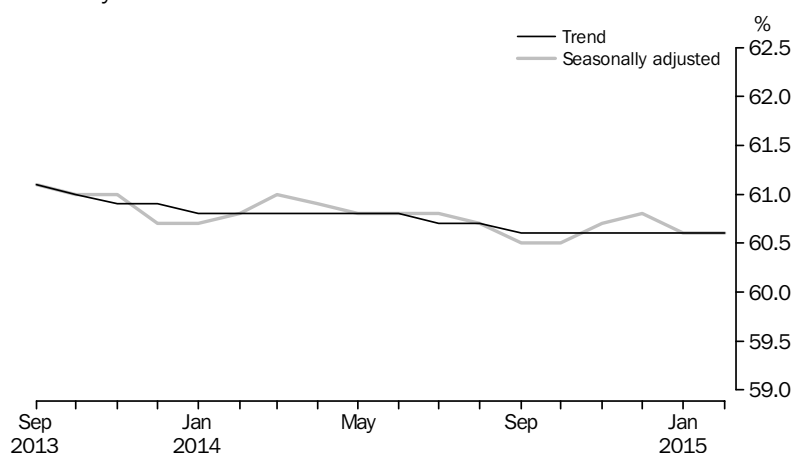
## NATIONAL ESTIMATES

*continued*

In trend terms the unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.3% in February 2015. The number of employed persons in February 2015 increased by 14,000 to 11,654,000 and the number of unemployed persons increased by 2,900 to 781,600 in trend terms. The trend participation rate was unchanged at 64.7% in February 2015.

The employment to population ratio, which expresses the number of employed persons as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over, was unchanged at 60.6% (seasonally adjusted) in February 2015. In trend terms, the employment to population ratio was also unchanged at 60.6%.

### EMPLOYMENT TO POPULATION RATIO, PERSONS, September 2013 to February 2015



Seasonally adjusted full-time employment increased by 10,300 persons to 8,062,000 persons while part-time employment increased by 5,300 to 3,590,400 persons in February 2015. The increase in total employment resulted from:

- an increase in male full-time employment, up 9,000 persons
- an increase in female part-time employment, up 5,100 persons
- an increase in female full-time employment, up 1,200 persons
- an increase in male part-time employment, up 300 persons.

Seasonally adjusted aggregate monthly hours worked increased 13.0 million hours (0.8%) in February 2015 to 1,620.8 million hours.

## STATE ESTIMATES

The largest absolute increases in seasonally adjusted employment were in Victoria (up 12,800 persons) and Queensland (up 8,100 persons). The largest absolute decrease in seasonally adjusted employment was in South Australia (down 7,200 persons).

The largest decreases in the seasonally adjusted participation rate were in South Australia (down 0.8 percentage points) and Tasmania (down 0.3 percentage points) while the largest increases were in Queensland (up 0.2 percentage points) and Western Australia (up 0.2 percentage points).

The largest decreases in the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate were in Victoria (down 0.5 percentage points) and South Australia (down 0.3 percentage points). The largest increase in the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was in Western Australia (up 0.2 percentage points). The ABS recommends using trend estimates to analyse the underlying behaviour of the series.

STATE ESTIMATES *continued*

Seasonally adjusted estimates are not published for the territories.

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, STATES AND TERRITORIES, January 2015 and February 2015

	TREND		SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	
	January	February	January	February
	%	%	%	%
New South Wales	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.3
Victoria	6.4	6.3	6.6	6.0
Queensland	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.7
South Australia	6.9	7.0	7.2	6.9
Western Australia	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.8
Tasmania	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.6
Northern Territory	4.1	4.3	np	np
Australian Capital Territory	4.6	4.5	np	np
<b>Australia</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

## GROSS FLOWS

Gross flows (Table 17) highlight the change in labour force status of individuals between last month and this month. Gross flows are derived from the sample that is common between two consecutive months which, after taking account of sample rotation and varying non-response each month, is approximately 80% of the sample. However, the level and movement estimates produced from the Gross flows will not necessarily represent 80% of the level and movement estimates in a given month from the whole sample. Despite this limitation, analysis of the gross flows data can provide an indication, in original terms, of underlying movements in the labour market.

Estimates for February 2015 in original terms include impacts from the timing of the Participation, Job search and Mobility supplementary survey. These impacts will be reflected in gross flows data between January and February 2015 and should be considered when interpreting the gross flows.

In original terms between January and February 2015 the number of persons employed increased by 260,400 with gross flows showing a net increase of 168,100. The increase shown in the gross flows comprised:

- 148,000 persons whose status changed from unemployed to employed,
- 292,200 persons whose status changed from not in the labour force to employed,
- 79,700 persons whose status changed from employed to unemployed, and
- 192,300 persons whose status changed from employed to not in the labour force.

In original terms between January and February 2015 the number of persons unemployed increased by 1,300 with gross flows showing a net increase of 4,000. The increase shown in the gross flows comprised:

- 79,700 persons whose status changed from employed to unemployed,
- 201,100 persons whose status changed from not in the labour force to unemployed,
- 148,000 persons whose status changed from unemployed to employed, and
- 128,800 persons whose status changed from unemployed to not in the labour force.

## GROSS FLOWS *continued*

As the gross flows data are presented in original terms they are not directly comparable to the seasonally adjusted and trend data discussed elsewhere in the commentary.

## ABOUT THE DATA

There can be statistical volatility in any sample survey and while standard errors provide one measure of statistical volatility, it is not possible to be precise about the impact of statistical volatility for any given estimate. However, the ABS will continue to investigate whether it is possible to modify in future its estimation methodology for Labour Force statistics to reduce its extent. This investigation is consistent with the recommendations of the recent independent review into the Labour Force Survey, but will take some time. Statistical volatility is dampened in the trend estimates, and the ABS encourages users to consider these along with the seasonally adjusted and original series in understanding underlying trends in the labour market.

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE LABOUR FORCE

### REBENCHMARKING

The estimates in this issue have been rebenchmarked using population benchmarks based on the latest Estimated Resident Population. See the article, *Rebenchmarking Labour Force Estimates*, in this issue for further detail.

### ANNUAL SEASONAL REANALYSIS

As advised in previous issues of this publication, the ABS will publish results of the annual seasonal reanalysis of Labour Force series with the March 2015 issue. This will revise seasonally adjusted and trend estimates for key Labour Force series to the commencement of the series in February 1978. While seasonal factors for the complete time series are estimated every month, they are reviewed annually at a more detailed level than is possible in the monthly processing cycle to ensure that the estimates are of the highest quality.

In response to the recent independent review into the Labour Force Survey, the ABS introduced prior corrections from the December 2013 reference month to account for the changed supplementary survey program. In addition, the ABS committed to reviewing these prior corrections and implementing relevant prior corrections over the entire series. This work will be undertaken as part of the annual seasonal reanalysis. As the supplementary survey program had been relatively stable prior to 2014, implementing prior corrections to earlier periods is generally not expected to have a significant impact on the series. The March 2015 issue will include information on the impact of the annual seasonal reanalysis, including the implementation and refinement of prior corrections for the supplementary survey program.

### NEW LABOUR FORCE OUTPUTS

The ABS conducted a review in 2010-11 of content included in the labour household survey program and has been working towards introducing a range of new Labour Force outputs. The introduction of the new outputs has been delayed with priority given to investigations into recent Labour Force results, implementation of regular quarterly rebenchmarking, the upcoming annual seasonal reanalysis and to ensure that testing of the system producing the new outputs is comprehensive. While the timing for introducing the new outputs is yet to be finalised, the ABS is working towards an implementation with the April 2015 issues (released in May 2015) for monthly outputs including the detailed monthly release (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and the May 2015 issue (released in June 2015) for quarterly data. The ABS will either confirm or provide a further update on the release of the new Labour Force outputs in the March 2015 issue of this publication. In the meantime the existing outputs will continue to be produced for the February and March 2015 issues of this and related publications but will cease when the new outputs are introduced.

Blank templates for the new Labour Force outputs were released in October 2014 attached to the *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, October 2014* (cat. no. 6292.0). These templates still reflect the planned new outputs and are available to assist clients to prepare for the changed outputs. Clients who rely on the Labour Force spreadsheets and data cubes are encouraged to use the templates to ensure that their processes can continue to access the correct data once the new outputs are implemented.

# REBENCHMARKING LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES

## INTRODUCTION

There are two key inputs used in compiling Labour Force estimates:

- measure of the population potentially available to the labour force (i.e. the civilian population aged 15 years and over), referred to as population benchmarks; and
- labour force status of people in the population (i.e. being employed, unemployed or not in the labour force) based on data collected in the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS).

This article describes revisions made to Labour Force estimates as a result of the population benchmarks being rebenchmarked (updated) to include the latest information from the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) as released in *Australian Demographic Statistics, Jun 2014* (cat. no. 3101.0).

This article:

- provides background to the rebenchmarking of the Labour Force estimates;
- details the process for maintaining the population benchmarks;
- provides an update on the impact of the delayed release of Overseas Arrival and Departures data;
- summarises the impact on key Labour Force series.

## BACKGROUND TO REBENCHMARKING

ABS population benchmarks are based on the ERP which reflects data from the Census of Population and Housing adjusted for under-enumeration, and updated for births, deaths, interstate migration and net overseas migration. As Labour Force estimates cover the civilian population aged 15 years and over, the civilian population aged under 15 years and permanent defence personnel are deducted from ERP to create the Labour Force population benchmarks.

Labour Force estimates for the most recent months are released prior to the availability of the relevant ERP. For example, for the February 2015 Labour Force issue, the latest ERP currently available is for June quarter 2014. This lag is due to the time needed to compile the component data for the ERP, namely the overseas and interstate migration, births, and deaths. Of these components, net overseas migration (NOM) is generally the main driver of change in ERP estimates and therefore is explained further. Estimating NOM, and thereby Australia's official ERP count, is based on an international traveller's duration of being in or out of Australia. The ABS employs a '12/16 month rule' where the traveller can be added to, or subtracted from, NOM if they have stayed in, or been absent from, Australia for a period of 12 months or more, over a 16-month period. This 12 month period does not have to be continuous. Travellers who arrive in Australia for a holiday or a short stay are not counted as part of the resident population and conversely those who leave for short periods are not excluded.

The population benchmarks used to compile Labour Force estimates can take on one of four statuses, depending on the availability of the components of ERP. These statuses indicate the quality of the components at a particular point in time, and hence the benchmarks. The population benchmarks used in the estimates presented in this issue can be used to demonstrate how NOM determines the quality of the benchmarks:

- Final benchmarks: After the rebasing of ERP to the 2011 Census, benchmarks for the period from Sep 2006 to June 2011 are considered final. NOM, and hence benchmarks, for these periods will not change again.



### BACKGROUND TO REBENCHMARKING *continued*

- Revised benchmarks: This benchmark is calculated from a revised set of components that include final NOM estimates which fully apply the '12/16 month rule'. A traveller's actual duration of stay can be calculated when data on overseas movements are available after 16 months. In this issue, for example, travellers who arrived in Australia for the first time in March 2013 were monitored by their departures from and arrivals back into Australia up until July 2014 (the 16 month window), at which point their total time spent in Australia was assessed and, if exceeding 12 months, they were added to NOM.
- Preliminary benchmarks: This benchmark contains preliminary NOM estimates that uses travellers' modelled behaviour and declared intentions of stay since not enough time has elapsed for the '12/16 month rule' to be applied. Travellers who arrived for the first time in June 2014 will be monitored until October 2015 (the 16 month window) to determine if they will satisfy the '12/16 month rule'.
- Projected benchmarks: In this issue, benchmarks are based on projected population for July 2014 onwards since official preliminary ERP is not yet available. These projections make assumptions of component growth including using the NOM forecasts provided by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

Rebenchmarking ensures that the Labour Force estimates are based on the most up-to-date population information. Quarterly rebenchmarking will ensure that short-term projections and preliminary ERP included in the population benchmarks for the most recent periods are regularly replaced by more reliable information. Quarterly rebenchmarking does not generally result in any material change to unemployment rates, participation rates or employment to population ratios at the national or state and territory level. Changes to the population benchmarks impact primarily on the level of the Labour Force estimates (i.e. employed, unemployed and not in the labour force) that are directly related to the underlying size of the population. Changes in population composition such as age, sex or region (as used in the population benchmarks) may result in a different rate of change especially at finer levels of geography. The impact of the current rebenchmarking is described later in this article.

### MAINTAINING THE LABOUR FORCE POPULATION BENCHMARKS

The section above describes how over time preliminary ERP estimates are replaced by revised ERP as the 16 month window closes on individuals, and short-term forecasts are replaced by preliminary ERP estimates. This results in continual revision of the estimated resident population, not just for the most recent month but also back throughout the last 25 months.

To ensure that Labour Force series maintain coherence with the latest ERP estimates, the ABS announced in the November 2012 issue of this publication that it would introduce a process of regular rebenchmarking to introduce the latest revised Labour Force population benchmarks. From this issue, February 2015, the population benchmarks will be revised quarterly (in the February, May, August and November issues) with estimates revised for the previous 25 months. This will ensure that the Labour Force population benchmarks are updated with the most recent ERP information available.

The rebenchmarking means:

- That after the rebenchmarking in this issue, estimates up to March 2013 will be based on revised ERP and therefore not further revised in the regular rebenchmarking (until the rebasing following the 2016 Census).

## MAINTAINING THE LABOUR FORCE POPULATION BENCHMARKS *continued*

- That in future issues, Labour Force population benchmarks and therefore Labour Force estimates will be revised quarterly for the previous 25 months, with the earliest three months revised for the last time until the next Census. For example in the May 2015 issue, the data for April, May and June 2013 will be based on revised ERP and therefore not further revised in the regular rebenchmarking.
- Initial Labour Force estimates for the most recent periods will continue to be based on Labour Force population benchmarks that project forward between eight and 10 months past the most recent preliminary ERP estimate to the current period and incorporate NOM forecasts provided by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

The progressive status of Labour Force benchmarks, by future publication issue, is shown in Table 1 which is included in the online version of this article on the ABS website.

As this issue introduces the first benchmarking revision since the January 2014 issue, it updates population benchmarks back to July 2011 i.e. 44 months rather than the 25 months that will occur with regular quarterly rebenchmarking. The revisions to July 2011 are broken down as follows:

- July 2011 to March 2012 - introduction of revised ERP with revisions to replace state migration factors based on the 2006 Census with factors from the 2011 Census. This period will not be further revised in the regular rebenchmarking (until the rebasing following the 2016 Census).
- April 2012 to March 2013 - revisions from preliminary ERP to revised ERP and therefore will not be further revised in the regular rebenchmarking (until the rebasing following the 2016 Census).
- April 2013 to June 2013 - revisions from an older preliminary ERP (as at January 2014) to the most recent preliminary ERP.
- July 2013 to June 2014 - revisions from projected population estimates to preliminary ERP.
- July 2014 to January 2015 - updated projected population estimates, incorporating latest NOM forecasts from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

The status of Labour Force benchmarks used in the January 2015 issue is shown in Table 2 which is included in the online version of this article on the ABS website.

## DELAY IN RELEASE OF OVERSEAS ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES STATISTICS

The release of *Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia* (cat. no. 3401.0) for the period October 2014 to April 2015 will be delayed. The delay is due to passenger card processing issues as announced by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP). This delay does not impact on the calculation of Labour Force population benchmarks used in the rebenchmarking undertaken for this issue, as only preliminary ERP up to June 2014 is incorporated with subsequent months based on projections. The ABS and the Department are working closely together to manage the issues and to minimise delays to the preparation of these statistics. Further advice will be provided if these delays impact on Labour Force benchmarks.

## REBENCHMARKING LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES *continued*

### IMPACT OF REBENCHMARKING ON KEY LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES

The introduction of the revised population benchmarks does not involve any change to the unit record data collected in the LFS. Changes to the population benchmarks impact primarily on the level of the Labour Force estimates (i.e. employed, unemployed and not in the Labour Force) that are directly related to the underlying size of the population. Changes in population composition such as age, sex or region (as used in the population benchmarks) may result in a different rate of change especially at finer levels of geography. Rebenchmarking does not generally result in any material change to unemployment rates, participation rates or employment to population ratios at the national or state and territory levels. The following table shows the impact of rebenchmarking on key trend and seasonally adjusted estimates for December 2014 and January 2015 as published in the January 2015 issue. The estimates are prior to the incorporation of data for February 2015 which may result in the usual revisions observed with concurrent seasonal adjustment. This shows that for the most recent months, rebenchmarking has had minimal impact on the key level estimates and negligible impact on the rates.

### JANUARY 2015 REVISED KEY FIGURES

	Dec 2014			Jan 2015				
	<i>Published</i>	<i>Revised</i>	<i>Difference</i>	<i>Published</i>	<i>Revised</i>	<i>Difference</i>	<i>Published</i>	<i>Revised</i>
Trend								
Employed persons ('000)	11650.8	11622.5	-28.2	11666.0	11637.4	-28.6	15.2	14.9
Unemployed persons ('000)	778.7	777.3	-1.4	782.3	780.9	-1.5	3.6	3.5
Unemployment rate (%)	6.3	6.3	0.0	6.3	6.3	0.0	0.0 pts	0.0 pts
Participation rate (%)	64.7	64.7	0.0	64.7	64.7	0.0	0.0 pts	0.0 pts
Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked (Mh)	1603.7	1599.2	-4.5	1604.4	1599.7	-4.7	0.7	0.5
Seasonally Adjusted								
Employed persons ('000)	11680.9	11650.7	-30.2	11668.7	11641.1	-27.6	-12.2	-9.5
Unemployed persons ('000)	760.7	758.9	-1.8	795.2	793.7	-1.4	34.5	34.9
Unemployment rate (%)	6.1	6.1	0.0	6.4	6.4	0.0	0.3 pts	0.3 pts
Participation rate (%)	64.8	64.7	0.0	64.8	64.8	0.0	0.0 pts	0.0 pts
Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked (Mh)	1599.4	1594.9	-4.5	1607.6	1602.5	-5.1	8.2	7.6

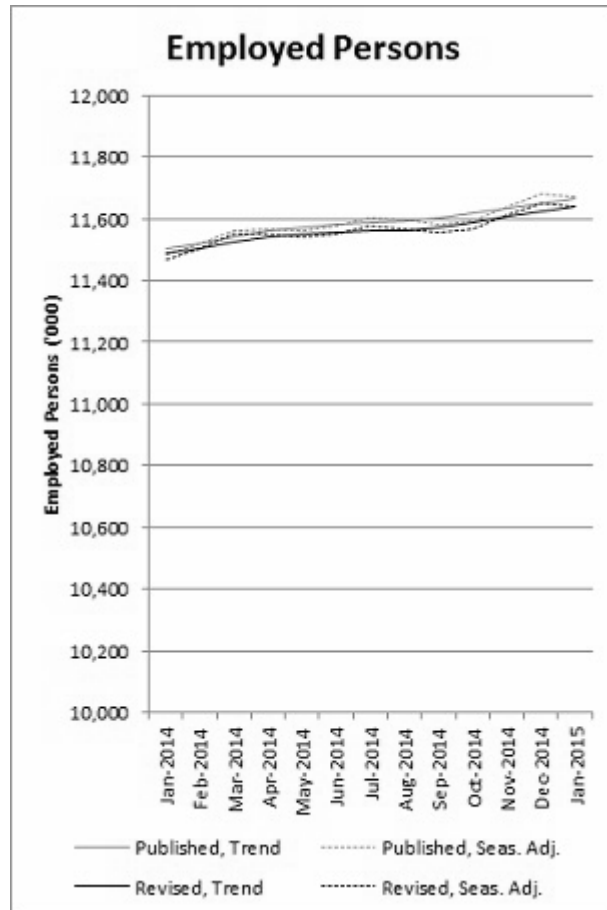
### JANUARY 2015 REVISED KEY FIGURES *continued*

	<i>Dec 14 to Jan 15 Difference</i>	<i>Published</i>	<i>Revised</i>	<i>Jan 14 to Jan 15 Difference</i>
Trend				
Employed persons ('000)	-0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.1 pts
Unemployed persons ('000)	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.2 pts
Unemployment rate (%)	0.0 pts	0.4 pts	0.4 pts	0.0 pts
Participation rate (%)	0.0 pts	0.1 pts	0.1 pts	0.0 pts
Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked (Mh)	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1 pts
Seasonally Adjusted				
Employed persons ('000)	2.6	0.0	0.0	-0.1 pts
Unemployed persons ('000)	0.4	0.1	0.1	-0.1 pts
Unemployment rate (%)	0.0 pts	0.4 pts	0.4 pts	0.0 pts
Participation rate (%)	0.0 pts	0.2 pts	0.2 pts	0.0 pts
Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked (Mh)	-0.6	-0.2%	-0.3%	-0.1 pts

## REBENCHMARKING LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES *continued*

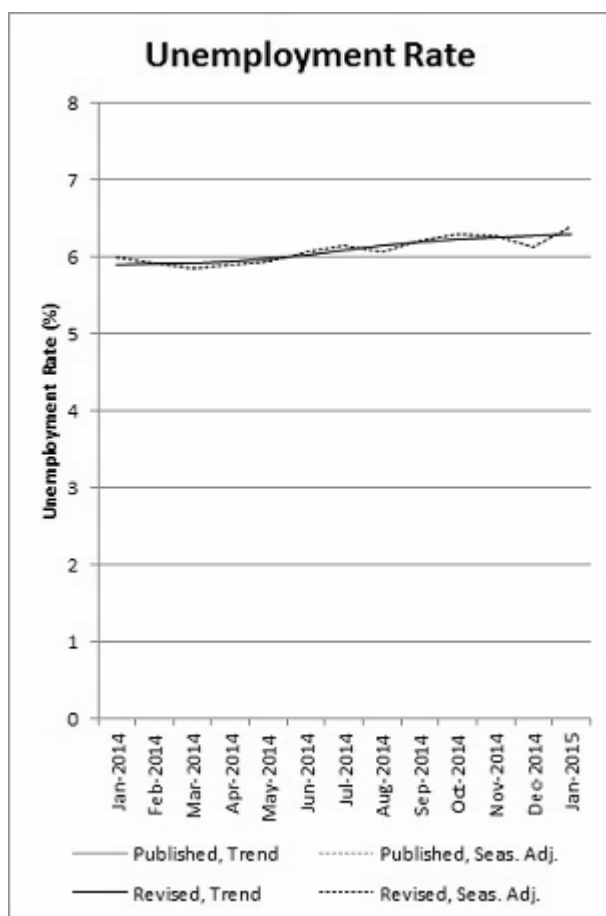
### IMPACT OF REBENCHMARKING ON KEY LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES *continued*

The following charts show the impact of the rebenchmarking over a longer period. While there is an impact on the level of employed persons and the unemployment rate, the extent of the change is relatively constant or evolves gradually and in percentage terms is relatively small.



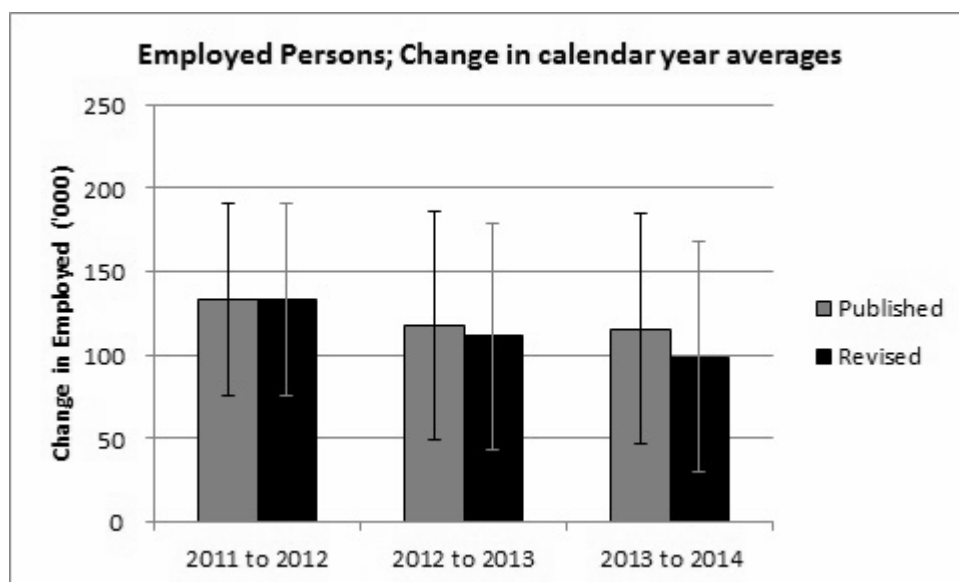
## REBENCHMARKING LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES *continued*

IMPACT OF  
REBENCHMARKING ON  
KEY LABOUR FORCE  
ESTIMATES *continued*



### CALENDAR YEAR 2014 AVERAGE KEY FIGURES

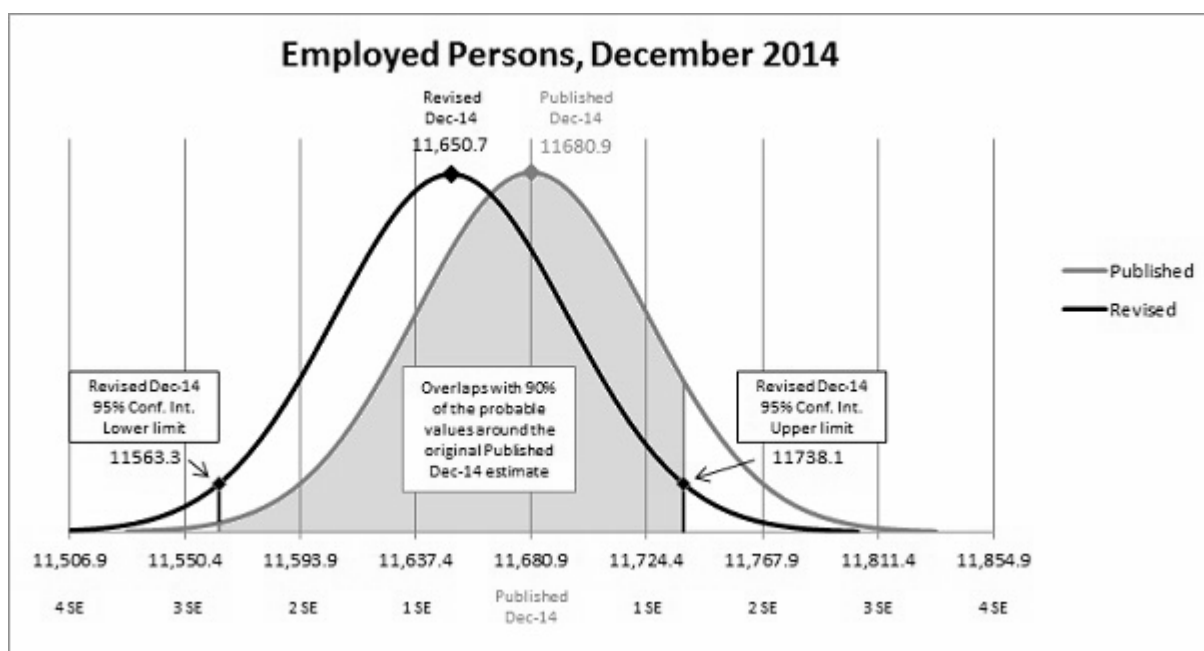
Seasonally Adjusted	Published	Revised	2013		Published	Revised	2014		Published	Revised	2013 to 2014 Difference
			Difference				Difference				
Employed persons ('000)	11 464.6	11 458.4	-6.2		11 580.4	11 557.5	-22.9		115.8	99.1	-16.7
Unemployed persons ('000)	688.1	688.0	-0.1		746.7	745.8	-0.1		58.6	57.8	-0.9



## REBENCHMARKING LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES *continued*

### IMPACT OF REBENCHMARKING ON KEY LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES *continued*

The largest revision at the Australian level was a downward shift of 30,200 (or 0.26%) employed persons in December 2014, from the published estimate of 11.68 million to the revised 11.65 million. The normal distribution of probable 'real world' values around each of these estimates overlap to an extent that each is within the range of one standard error of each estimate (about 70% of one standard error). When considering the 95% confidence interval around the new revised estimate of 11.65 million for December 2014 (11.56 to 11.74 million), this range overlaps with 90% of the probable values originally covered by the distribution around the previously published estimate of 11.68 million (see graph below). This illustrates that both the original and revised estimates are providing similar profiles of possible 'real world' values for the number of employed persons in Australia. This is consistent with the sample survey approach to estimation - even though the value of the estimate has changed due to revised population benchmarks, the underlying responses that divide the population into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force have not changed, and should not impact on any conclusions based on the estimates.



### FUTURE REBENCHMARKING

This article has described the rebenchmarking of Labour Force estimates to the latest available population benchmarks. As anticipated this has not resulted in any material change to unemployment rates, participation rates or employment to population ratios at the national or state and territory levels. Rebenchmarking will continue on a quarterly basis commencing with the May 2015 issue with revisions for the previous 25 months rather than the 44 months on this occasion.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

For any queries regarding the implementation of any of these changes to the Labour Force series contact Labour Force Estimates on Canberra 02 6252 6525, or via email at [labourforce@abs.gov.au](mailto:labourforce@abs.gov.au).

# ONLINE COLLECTION IN THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

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## INTRODUCTION

Households selected in the ABS's Labour Force Survey traditionally responded through a telephone or face-to-face interview but from December 2012 the option of responding through an online questionnaire was introduced to provide respondents with greater choice and to ensure that data collection remains cost-effective. This note provides information on the take up rate of the online questionnaire.

## BACKGROUND

From December 2012 to April 2013, the ABS conducted a trial of online data collection. During this time, respondents in one rotation group (i.e. one-eighth of the survey sample) were offered the option of self completing their Labour Force Survey questionnaire online instead of via a telephone or face-to-face interview. From May 2013, the ABS expanded the offer of online collection to 50% of each new incoming rotation group. This coincided with the introduction of the current sample, based on the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. From September 2013, online collection has been offered to 100% of private dwellings in each incoming rotation group and by April 2014, 100% of private dwellings were being offered online collection. Interviewer collection (both telephone and face-to-face) continues to be available for those respondents where online self completion is inappropriate for operational, technological or personal reasons.

The ABS used the initial trial of offering online data collection to one rotation group and the progressive introduction of the offer to other rotation groups, to measure the impact on the Labour Force series of the move to online self completion. Statistical analysis during this period concluded there was no evidence of any reporting bias due to the introduction of online questionnaires. However, the analysis could not rule out that some small impact may be present, as the sample of online reporters was not sufficiently large to detect if there were any small impacts. Ongoing monitoring and analysis of online responses has not identified a significant impact from the move to online self completion.

## CURRENT COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Households selected in the Labour Force Survey are sent a letter and brochure informing them that they have been selected to participate in the survey. Since February 2014, survey respondents are asked to use the unique user name and password provided in the letter to register an email address and other contact details for the household, or to contact the ABS if they are unable to participate in the survey online. A notification is then sent to respondents who have registered their contact details electronically to advise that the survey questionnaire is available for completion online within a specified one week period. Respondents who are unable to participate in the survey online, along with respondents who register contact details for the household electronically but do not complete the survey questionnaire online within the specified one week period, are subsequently contacted by an ABS interviewer to complete the survey questionnaire either via telephone or face-to-face. This represents an "opt out" approach to online data collection, and encourages survey participants to complete the survey online where possible at a time which is convenient to them.

## ONLINE COLLECTION TAKE UP

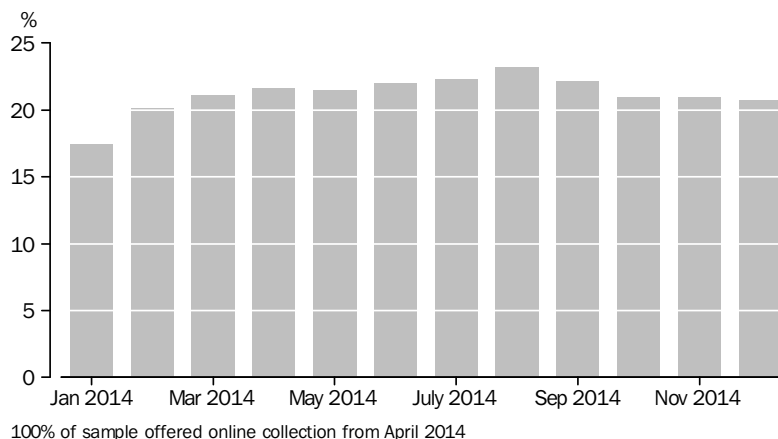
Chart 1 shows that online collection take up rates in aggregate were very consistent across 2014. The lowest take up rate during 2014 was 17.4% in January (when only 81% of the sample was offered the online option), with the highest at 23.2% in August. The average take up rate for 2014 was 21.1%. This compares to the 2013 average take up rate

## ONLINE COLLECTION IN THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY *continued*

### ONLINE COLLECTION TAKE UP *continued*

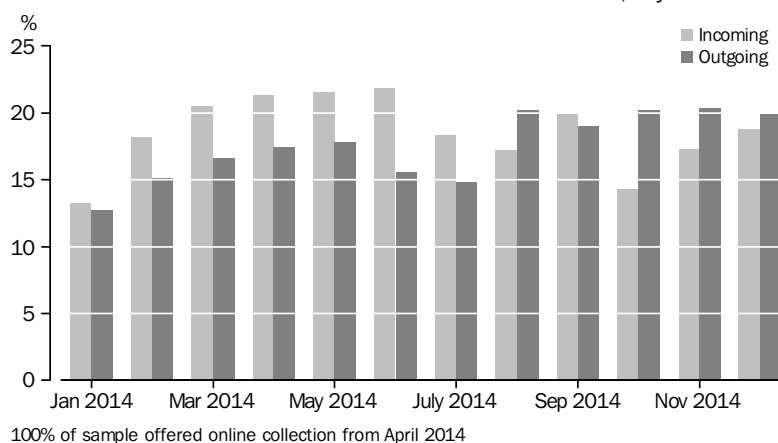
of 17.5% of those offered an online option. The ABS is continuing to explore options for making online collection a more attractive option for households.

GRAPH 1 - ONLINE COLLECTION TAKE UP RATES



The sample is divided into eight distinct sub-samples, or rotation groups, with each sub-sample remaining in the survey for eight months. A new rotation group is introduced each month to replace an outgoing rotation group. This replacement sample generally comes from the same geographic area as the outgoing one. Chart 2 shows that online collection take up rates varied somewhat between incoming and outgoing rotation groups during 2014. The largest absolute difference in take up rates was seen in June, with the take up rate for the incoming rotation group 6.3 percentage points higher than for the outgoing rotation group. The difference in the take up rate between an outgoing and incoming rotation group is one cause of the variation in month to month take up rates shown in Chart 1.

GRAPH 2 - ONLINE COLLECTION TAKE UP RATES, by rotation group



The sample can also be thought of as comprising sub-samples based in each capital city and the rest of each state. For the period April 2014 (when the online option commenced being offered to 100% of the sample) to December 2014, the combined online collection take up rates for capital cities were consistently higher than those for the combined rest of states (refer Chart 3). The largest difference in take up rates was seen in April 2014 where the combined capital cities rate was 6.5 percentage points

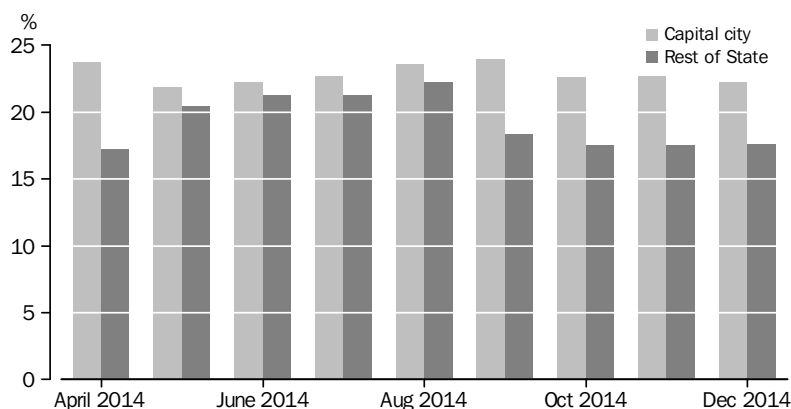


## ONLINE COLLECTION IN THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY *continued*

### ONLINE COLLECTION TAKE UP *continued*

higher than that for the combined rest of states. From April to December 2014 the average take up rate for the combined capital cities was 22.8% and 19.3% for the combined rest of states.

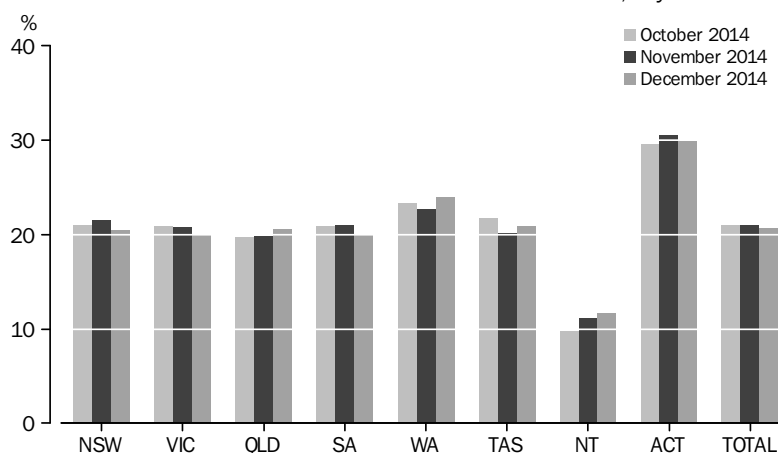
GRAPH 3 - ONLINE COLLECTION TAKE UP RATES, by Capital city/ Rest of State



100% of sample offered online collection from April 2014

Chart 4 shows that average online collection take up rates for each state for the period October to December 2014 were fairly consistent with the highest take up rate seen in Western Australia (at 23.3%) and the lowest in Queensland (at 20.0%). This contrasted with results for each territory, which varied most from the national average of 20.9% for these three months. The average take up rate for the same period for the Northern Territory was 10.8% (noting that online data collection was not offered to sample in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and very remote areas), while the take up rate for the Australian Capital Territory was 30.0%.

GRAPH 4 - ONLINE COLLECTION TAKE UP RATES, by state



Survey respondents who complete their survey with the help of a trained interviewer in a month are still able to use online collection for any subsequent month in the survey.

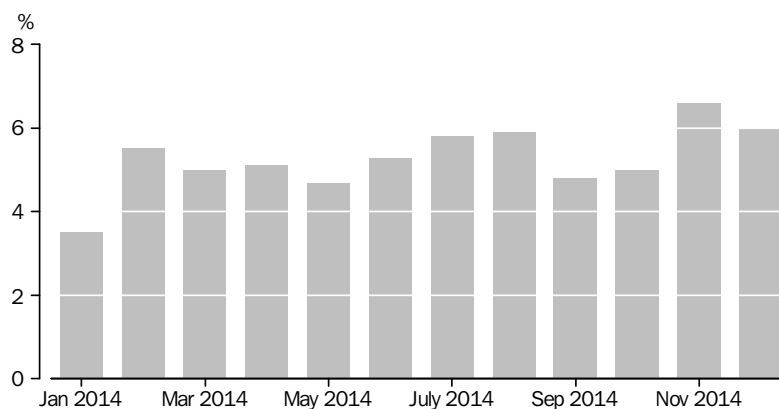
Chart 5 shows of those survey respondents who completed their survey with the help of an ABS interviewer in the previous month, the proportion who used online collection in the following month. For example, of those survey respondents who completed their

## ONLINE COLLECTION IN THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY *continued*

### ONLINE COLLECTION TAKE UP *continued*

survey with the help of an ABS interviewer in November 2014, 6% subsequently completed the questionnaire online in December 2014.

GRAPH 5 - ONLINE COLLECTION, % from previously interviewed households



100% of sample offered online collection from April 2014

A further update on the take up of the online completion of the Labour Force questionnaire will be provided every six months in this publication. It is intended that the next update will include information on the characteristics of online respondents (e.g. Labour Force status, age, gender).

# LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER): Trend

	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Full time	Part time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total	Labour force	Looking for f/t work	Total	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
MALES									
February 2012	5 146.5	997.0	6 143.5	254.0	320.5	6 464.0	4.7	5.0	71.8
February 2013	5 181.0	1 021.9	6 202.9	287.6	359.9	6 562.8	5.3	5.5	71.6
2014									
February	5 145.4	1 081.1	6 226.5	313.5	387.3	6 613.8	5.7	5.9	70.9
March	5 155.7	1 081.5	6 237.2	311.9	386.9	6 624.1	5.7	5.8	70.9
April	5 166.9	1 079.7	6 246.6	312.1	388.4	6 635.0	5.7	5.9	71.0
May	5 175.7	1 076.6	6 252.3	313.7	391.8	6 644.2	5.7	5.9	71.0
June	5 180.7	1 073.7	6 254.4	316.0	396.6	6 651.0	5.7	6.0	71.0
July	5 182.8	1 072.3	6 255.2	318.2	401.3	6 656.5	5.8	6.0	70.9
August	5 184.9	1 073.2	6 258.1	319.8	405.1	6 663.1	5.8	6.1	70.9
September	5 188.3	1 076.0	6 264.4	321.4	408.1	6 672.4	5.8	6.1	70.9
October	5 193.2	1 079.3	6 272.5	323.7	411.2	6 683.7	5.9	6.2	70.9
November	5 198.8	1 081.8	6 280.6	327.0	414.8	6 695.5	5.9	6.2	70.9
December	5 204.2	1 084.3	6 288.5	330.5	418.6	6 707.1	6.0	6.2	71.0
2015									
January	5 208.4	1 086.9	6 295.3	333.6	422.1	6 717.4	6.0	6.3	71.0
February	5 212.5	1 088.7	6 301.2	336.4	425.5	6 726.6	6.1	6.3	71.0
FEMALES									
February 2012	2 805.5	2 341.9	5 147.4	180.5	291.7	5 439.1	6.0	5.4	58.7
February 2013	2 836.6	2 397.8	5 234.3	191.6	304.0	5 538.4	6.3	5.5	58.8
2014									
February	2 830.8	2 445.1	5 276.0	217.4	334.6	5 610.6	7.1	6.0	58.5
March	2 838.4	2 445.5	5 284.0	219.0	337.8	5 621.8	7.2	6.0	58.5
April	2 846.8	2 445.8	5 292.7	219.4	339.6	5 632.3	7.2	6.0	58.6
May	2 853.3	2 446.3	5 299.6	219.6	341.3	5 640.9	7.1	6.1	58.6
June	2 855.4	2 447.7	5 303.1	220.0	344.0	5 647.1	7.2	6.1	58.6
July	2 853.5	2 450.8	5 304.3	220.5	347.9	5 652.1	7.2	6.2	58.6
August	2 849.9	2 455.8	5 305.7	220.6	352.1	5 657.9	7.2	6.2	58.5
September	2 846.9	2 462.5	5 309.5	219.6	355.3	5 664.8	7.2	6.3	58.5
October	2 845.6	2 470.7	5 316.3	218.1	356.9	5 673.2	7.1	6.3	58.5
November	2 846.3	2 479.2	5 325.5	216.7	357.2	5 682.7	7.1	6.3	58.5
December	2 848.3	2 487.2	5 335.5	216.0	357.0	5 692.5	7.0	6.3	58.6
2015									
January	2 850.6	2 494.1	5 344.7	215.6	356.6	5 701.3	7.0	6.3	58.6
February	2 853.2	2 499.6	5 352.9	215.5	356.1	5 709.0	7.0	6.2	58.6
PERSONS									
February 2012	7 952.1	3 338.9	11 291.0	434.5	612.1	11 903.1	5.2	5.1	65.2
February 2013	8 017.6	3 419.7	11 437.2	479.3	663.9	12 101.1	5.6	5.5	65.1
2014									
February	7 976.2	3 526.2	11 502.5	530.8	722.0	12 224.4	6.2	5.9	64.6
March	7 994.1	3 527.1	11 521.2	530.9	724.7	12 245.9	6.2	5.9	64.7
April	8 013.8	3 525.5	11 539.3	531.6	728.0	12 267.3	6.2	5.9	64.7
May	8 029.0	3 522.9	11 551.9	533.3	733.1	12 285.0	6.2	6.0	64.7
June	8 036.1	3 521.4	11 557.4	535.9	740.7	12 298.1	6.3	6.0	64.7
July	8 036.3	3 523.1	11 559.5	538.7	749.2	12 308.7	6.3	6.1	64.7
August	8 034.9	3 528.9	11 563.8	540.5	757.2	12 321.0	6.3	6.1	64.6
September	8 035.3	3 538.6	11 573.8	541.0	763.4	12 337.3	6.3	6.2	64.6
October	8 038.8	3 550.0	11 588.8	541.8	768.1	12 356.9	6.3	6.2	64.6
November	8 045.1	3 561.0	11 606.1	543.7	772.1	12 378.2	6.3	6.2	64.7
December	8 052.5	3 571.4	11 623.9	546.4	775.7	12 399.6	6.4	6.3	64.7
2015									
January	8 059.0	3 581.0	11 640.0	549.1	778.7	12 418.7	6.4	6.3	64.7
February	8 065.7	3 588.3	11 654.0	551.9	781.6	12 435.7	6.4	6.3	64.7

# LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER): Seasonally Adjusted

	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		Participation rate
	Full time	Part time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total	Labour force	Looking for f/t work	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
MALES								
February 2012	5 146.2	985.6	6 131.8	263.3	327.4	6 459.2	4.9	5.1
February 2013	5 163.5	1 045.3	6 208.9	279.3	354.7	6 563.5	5.1	5.4
2014								
February	5 146.1	1 080.4	6 226.6	312.2	387.1	6 613.6	5.7	5.9
March	5 159.0	1 102.3	6 261.3	297.7	373.9	6 635.2	5.5	5.6
April	5 173.8	1 083.0	6 256.8	313.5	389.9	6 646.7	5.7	5.9
May	5 180.1	1 061.1	6 241.2	315.3	389.5	6 630.7	5.7	5.9
June	5 168.4	1 076.3	6 244.7	321.0	403.7	6 648.4	5.8	6.1
July	5 198.5	1 064.6	6 263.2	322.7	408.9	6 672.0	5.8	6.1
August	5 187.0	1 077.1	6 264.1	315.5	396.2	6 660.4	5.7	5.9
September	5 176.0	1 078.9	6 255.0	319.7	406.4	6 661.3	5.8	6.1
October	5 180.5	1 080.6	6 261.1	316.6	410.6	6 671.8	5.8	6.2
November	5 204.0	1 084.1	6 288.2	334.2	424.7	6 712.8	6.0	6.3
December	5 225.9	1 074.0	6 299.9	331.3	405.7	6 705.5	6.0	6.0
2015								
January	5 199.4	1 091.9	6 291.3	333.3	430.8	6 722.1	6.0	6.4
February	5 208.4	1 092.2	6 300.6	336.4	424.1	6 724.7	6.1	6.3
FEMALES								
February 2012	2 802.8	2 333.8	5 136.5	179.7	291.8	5 428.3	6.0	5.4
February 2013	2 839.7	2 409.0	5 248.7	190.2	300.5	5 549.2	6.3	5.4
2014								
February	2 831.5	2 443.5	5 275.0	220.9	337.6	5 612.6	7.2	6.0
March	2 848.9	2 439.2	5 288.1	216.6	343.2	5 631.4	7.1	6.1
April	2 841.8	2 450.6	5 292.4	214.2	333.8	5 626.1	7.0	5.9
May	2 855.7	2 442.9	5 298.6	219.0	339.1	5 637.7	7.1	6.0
June	2 861.2	2 446.2	5 307.4	218.6	340.8	5 648.2	7.1	6.0
July	2 859.7	2 452.2	5 311.9	223.0	349.7	5 661.7	7.2	6.2
August	2 848.8	2 456.5	5 305.2	222.9	350.7	5 655.9	7.3	6.2
September	2 832.3	2 467.7	5 300.0	222.5	358.1	5 658.1	7.3	6.3
October	2 855.0	2 450.7	5 305.7	216.1	365.1	5 670.9	7.0	6.4
November	2 833.9	2 489.7	5 323.6	210.7	351.4	5 675.1	6.9	6.2
December	2 856.7	2 494.8	5 351.5	218.3	352.7	5 704.2	7.1	6.2
2015								
January	2 852.3	2 493.2	5 345.5	217.0	362.3	5 707.8	7.1	6.3
February	2 853.6	2 498.3	5 351.8	216.6	353.2	5 705.0	7.1	6.2
PERSONS								
February 2012	7 948.9	3 319.4	11 268.3	443.0	619.1	11 887.4	5.3	5.2
February 2013	8 003.2	3 454.4	11 457.6	469.4	655.2	12 112.7	5.5	5.4
2014								
February	7 977.6	3 523.9	11 501.5	533.1	724.7	12 226.2	6.3	5.9
March	8 007.9	3 541.5	11 549.4	514.3	717.1	12 266.5	6.0	5.8
April	8 015.6	3 533.5	11 549.1	527.7	723.6	12 272.8	6.2	5.9
May	8 035.8	3 504.0	11 539.8	534.3	728.6	12 268.4	6.2	5.9
June	8 029.6	3 522.5	11 552.1	539.6	744.5	12 296.6	6.3	6.1
July	8 058.3	3 516.8	11 575.1	545.7	758.6	12 333.7	6.3	6.2
August	8 035.8	3 533.6	11 569.3	538.4	746.9	12 316.3	6.3	6.1
September	8 008.3	3 546.7	11 554.9	542.2	764.4	12 319.4	6.3	6.2
October	8 035.5	3 531.4	11 566.9	532.7	775.8	12 342.6	6.2	6.3
November	8 038.0	3 573.9	11 611.8	544.8	776.1	12 387.9	6.3	6.3
December	8 082.6	3 568.8	11 651.4	549.6	758.3	12 409.7	6.4	6.1
2015								
January	8 051.7	3 585.1	11 636.8	550.2	793.1	12 429.9	6.4	6.4
February	8 062.0	3 590.4	11 652.4	553.0	777.3	12 429.7	6.4	6.3

# LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER): Original

	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED		Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		Participation rate
	Full time	Part time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total				Looking for f/t work	Total	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
MALES											
February 2012	5 175.8	947.9	6 123.7	291.0	364.8	6 488.5	2 509.6	8 998.2	5.3	5.6	72.1
February 2013	5 193.0	1 006.0	6 199.0	307.4	395.0	6 593.9	2 567.6	9 161.5	5.6	6.0	72.0
2014											
February	5 197.4	1 044.7	6 242.1	335.9	429.1	6 671.3	2 652.9	9 324.2	6.1	6.4	71.5
March	5 145.6	1 111.8	6 257.5	304.2	390.8	6 648.2	2 693.1	9 341.3	5.6	5.9	71.2
April	5 173.5	1 097.6	6 271.1	304.2	379.8	6 651.0	2 700.5	9 351.5	5.6	5.7	71.1
May	5 177.6	1 079.7	6 257.3	308.7	374.6	6 631.9	2 729.7	9 361.6	5.6	5.6	70.8
June	5 143.8	1 109.0	6 252.9	317.2	390.2	6 643.1	2 728.7	9 371.8	5.8	5.9	70.9
July	5 197.8	1 053.0	6 250.8	323.1	406.1	6 656.9	2 728.3	9 385.2	5.9	6.1	70.9
August	5 146.6	1 107.2	6 253.9	313.7	397.7	6 651.6	2 747.0	9 398.6	5.7	6.0	70.8
September	5 160.8	1 087.9	6 248.7	312.3	400.9	6 649.7	2 762.4	9 412.1	5.7	6.0	70.7
October	5 163.0	1 098.2	6 261.2	314.1	404.1	6 665.2	2 759.3	9 424.5	5.7	6.1	70.7
November	5 219.4	1 073.9	6 293.3	319.8	399.9	6 693.2	2 743.8	9 437.0	5.8	6.0	70.9
December	5 291.8	1 064.2	6 356.0	314.1	392.3	6 748.2	2 701.3	9 449.5	5.6	5.8	71.4
2015											
January	5 192.2	1 053.9	6 246.1	358.9	461.5	6 707.5	2 758.7	9 466.2	6.5	6.9	70.9
February	5 287.7	1 087.0	6 374.6	349.0	447.0	6 821.6	2 661.3	9 482.9	6.2	6.6	71.9
FEMALES											
February 2012	2 811.0	2 300.9	5 111.9	201.6	334.3	5 446.2	3 814.3	9 260.5	6.7	6.1	58.8
February 2013	2 849.6	2 371.6	5 221.1	213.9	345.1	5 566.2	3 857.7	9 423.9	7.0	6.2	59.1
2014											
February	2 877.8	2 359.1	5 236.9	245.7	408.6	5 645.5	3 945.1	9 590.6	7.9	7.2	58.9
March	2 833.1	2 461.2	5 294.2	226.2	376.8	5 671.0	3 935.4	9 606.4	7.4	6.6	59.0
April	2 821.3	2 479.3	5 300.6	211.9	334.5	5 635.1	3 981.2	9 616.4	7.0	5.9	58.6
May	2 863.9	2 450.8	5 314.7	223.2	343.4	5 658.1	3 968.3	9 626.4	7.2	6.1	58.8
June	2 850.9	2 469.5	5 320.3	216.7	331.9	5 652.3	3 984.1	9 636.4	7.1	5.9	58.7
July	2 866.9	2 445.0	5 311.9	218.0	335.6	5 647.5	4 002.9	9 650.4	7.1	5.9	58.5
August	2 839.9	2 503.0	5 342.9	204.4	336.6	5 679.5	3 985.0	9 664.4	6.7	5.9	58.8
September	2 848.3	2 471.8	5 320.1	212.5	344.5	5 664.6	4 013.8	9 678.5	6.9	6.1	58.5
October	2 845.4	2 472.7	5 318.0	205.3	347.9	5 665.9	4 026.0	9 691.9	6.7	6.1	58.5
November	2 822.9	2 497.0	5 319.9	199.3	324.5	5 644.4	4 060.9	9 705.3	6.6	5.7	58.2
December	2 893.6	2 498.6	5 392.3	216.5	341.1	5 733.4	3 985.4	9 718.8	7.0	5.9	59.0
2015											
January	2 847.4	2 408.8	5 256.2	235.9	376.6	5 632.8	4 102.7	9 735.5	7.7	6.7	57.9
February	2 902.1	2 485.9	5 388.0	235.3	392.3	5 780.4	3 971.8	9 752.2	7.5	6.8	59.3
PERSONS											
February 2012	7 986.9	3 248.8	11 235.6	492.6	699.1	11 934.8	6 323.9	18 258.7	5.8	5.9	65.4
February 2013	8 042.6	3 377.5	11 420.1	521.3	740.0	12 160.1	6 425.3	18 585.4	6.1	6.1	65.4
2014											
February	8 075.2	3 403.8	11 479.0	581.5	837.8	12 316.8	6 598.0	18 914.8	6.7	6.8	65.1
March	7 978.7	3 573.0	11 551.7	530.3	767.5	12 319.2	6 628.5	18 947.7	6.2	6.2	65.0
April	7 994.8	3 576.9	11 571.7	516.1	714.4	12 286.1	6 681.8	18 967.8	6.1	5.8	64.8
May	8 041.6	3 530.5	11 572.0	532.0	718.0	12 290.0	6 698.0	18 988.0	6.2	5.8	64.7
June	7 994.7	3 578.5	11 573.2	534.0	722.2	12 295.4	6 712.8	19 008.1	6.3	5.9	64.7
July	8 064.8	3 498.0	11 562.7	541.1	741.7	12 304.4	6 731.2	19 035.6	6.3	6.0	64.6
August	7 986.5	3 610.2	11 596.7	518.1	734.3	12 331.1	6 732.0	19 063.1	6.1	6.0	64.7
September	8 009.1	3 559.7	11 568.8	524.8	745.5	12 314.3	6 776.2	19 090.5	6.1	6.1	64.5
October	8 008.4	3 570.9	11 579.2	519.4	752.0	12 331.2	6 785.3	19 116.4	6.1	6.1	64.5
November	8 042.4	3 570.9	11 613.3	519.1	724.3	12 337.6	6 804.8	19 142.4	6.1	5.9	64.5
December	8 185.4	3 562.8	11 748.2	530.7	733.4	12 481.6	6 686.7	19 168.3	6.1	5.9	65.1
2015											
January	8 039.7	3 462.6	11 502.3	594.8	838.0	12 340.3	6 861.4	19 201.7	6.9	6.8	64.3
February	8 189.7	3 572.9	11 762.7	584.3	839.3	12 602.0	6 633.1	19 235.1	6.7	6.7	65.5

# LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER)—New South Wales

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	
MALES											
February 2012	1 608.4	1 920.6	98.4	4.9	69.8	1 611.4	1 917.6	99.0	4.9	69.7	2 891.5
February 2013	1 626.2	1 953.8	110.6	5.4	70.5	1 623.3	1 954.8	113.0	5.5	70.6	2 929.9
2014											
February	1 591.3	1 949.3	112.0	5.4	69.2	1 589.5	1 949.6	110.9	5.4	69.2	2 977.2
March	1 599.5	1 954.9	110.5	5.3	69.3	1 601.5	1 964.4	98.7	4.8	69.2	2 982.6
April	1 609.9	1 960.0	110.7	5.3	69.4	1 607.8	1 968.2	108.9	5.2	69.6	2 985.8
May	1 620.7	1 963.7	112.2	5.4	69.4	1 617.2	1 955.4	119.7	5.8	69.4	2 989.0
June	1 629.7	1 965.6	114.2	5.5	69.5	1 624.0	1 960.4	118.9	5.7	69.5	2 992.2
July	1 636.4	1 966.9	115.7	5.6	69.5	1 659.1	1 971.1	113.9	5.5	69.6	2 996.3
August	1 640.4	1 968.7	116.6	5.6	69.5	1 637.6	1 970.2	115.8	5.6	69.5	3 000.4
September	1 641.3	1 970.5	117.6	5.6	69.5	1 633.7	1 970.7	116.4	5.6	69.5	3 004.5
October	1 639.7	1 971.2	119.7	5.7	69.5	1 632.9	1 963.7	115.2	5.5	69.1	3 008.6
November	1 637.2	1 970.3	123.0	5.9	69.5	1 643.5	1 979.4	126.8	6.0	69.9	3 012.7
December	1 634.7	1 968.5	126.6	6.0	69.4	1 650.1	1 972.9	123.7	5.9	69.5	3 016.8
2015											
January	1 631.9	1 966.2	129.8	6.2	69.4	1 615.5	1 962.0	135.9	6.5	69.4	3 022.3
February	1 630.5	1 964.0	132.4	6.3	69.3	1 629.9	1 958.4	130.8	6.3	69.0	3 027.7
FEMALES											
February 2012	894.2	1 600.3	90.7	5.4	56.5	890.0	1 597.2	91.1	5.4	56.4	2 993.9
February 2013	914.7	1 639.9	90.2	5.2	57.0	918.1	1 643.6	87.3	5.0	57.0	3 036.6
2014											
February	909.2	1 655.5	101.0	5.7	56.9	910.2	1 651.7	101.9	5.8	56.8	3 085.0
March	912.2	1 658.6	100.5	5.7	56.9	919.5	1 661.9	101.4	5.7	57.1	3 090.2
April	914.5	1 659.5	100.4	5.7	56.9	917.1	1 663.5	100.0	5.7	57.0	3 093.3
May	915.2	1 658.5	101.2	5.8	56.8	916.5	1 654.9	98.9	5.6	56.6	3 096.4
June	913.7	1 656.4	102.8	5.8	56.7	912.1	1 661.0	100.6	5.7	56.8	3 099.5
July	910.0	1 654.8	104.8	6.0	56.7	907.1	1 650.6	106.5	6.1	56.6	3 103.5
August	904.9	1 654.4	106.7	6.1	56.7	907.8	1 657.9	107.1	6.1	56.8	3 107.4
September	900.3	1 655.5	108.0	6.1	56.7	902.7	1 642.2	111.6	6.4	56.4	3 111.3
October	897.0	1 657.9	108.6	6.1	56.7	898.0	1 663.8	107.7	6.1	56.9	3 115.5
November	895.4	1 660.4	108.8	6.1	56.7	886.7	1 665.4	108.1	6.1	56.8	3 119.7
December	895.2	1 662.7	109.1	6.2	56.7	891.7	1 663.6	106.9	6.0	56.7	3 123.9
2015											
January	896.2	1 664.5	109.6	6.2	56.7	896.6	1 661.2	109.1	6.2	56.6	3 129.5
February	897.9	1 665.5	110.2	6.2	56.7	908.6	1 665.5	113.3	6.4	56.7	3 135.1
PERSONS											
February 2012	2 502.6	3 520.9	189.2	5.1	63.0	2 501.3	3 514.8	190.0	5.1	63.0	5 885.4
February 2013	2 541.0	3 593.7	200.8	5.3	63.6	2 541.4	3 598.4	200.3	5.3	63.7	5 966.5
2014											
February	2 500.5	3 604.8	213.0	5.6	63.0	2 499.8	3 601.2	212.8	5.6	62.9	6 062.2
March	2 511.7	3 613.4	211.0	5.5	63.0	2 521.0	3 626.3	200.0	5.2	63.0	6 072.8
April	2 524.4	3 619.6	211.1	5.5	63.0	2 524.9	3 631.8	208.9	5.4	63.2	6 079.1
May	2 535.9	3 622.1	213.5	5.6	63.0	2 533.7	3 610.3	218.6	5.7	62.9	6 085.4
June	2 543.4	3 622.0	217.0	5.7	63.0	2 536.1	3 621.4	219.5	5.7	63.1	6 091.7
July	2 546.4	3 621.7	220.5	5.7	63.0	2 566.2	3 621.7	220.4	5.7	63.0	6 099.8
August	2 545.3	3 623.1	223.3	5.8	63.0	2 545.4	3 628.1	222.9	5.8	63.1	6 107.8
September	2 541.6	3 626.0	225.6	5.9	63.0	2 536.5	3 612.9	228.0	5.9	62.8	6 115.8
October	2 536.8	3 629.1	228.3	5.9	63.0	2 530.9	3 627.5	222.9	5.8	62.9	6 124.1
November	2 532.6	3 630.7	231.8	6.0	63.0	2 530.1	3 644.7	234.9	6.1	63.3	6 132.4
December	2 529.9	3 631.2	235.7	6.1	63.0	2 541.8	3 636.5	230.5	6.0	63.0	6 140.7
2015											
January	2 528.1	3 630.7	239.4	6.2	62.9	2 512.1	3 623.2	244.9	6.3	62.9	6 151.7
February	2 528.4	3 629.5	242.6	6.3	62.9	2 538.5	3 623.9	244.0	6.3	62.8	6 162.8

# LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER)—Victoria

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	
MALES											
February 2012	1 263.5	1 526.2	83.6	5.2	71.9	1 263.1	1 522.5	85.7	5.3	71.8	2 239.9
February 2013	1 265.8	1 534.8	91.3	5.6	71.4	1 251.8	1 535.7	85.6	5.3	71.2	2 278.6
2014											
February	1 261.5	1 537.3	103.1	6.3	70.6	1 260.2	1 535.0	100.4	6.1	70.4	2 323.3
March	1 261.7	1 538.9	102.5	6.2	70.5	1 259.5	1 539.0	104.1	6.3	70.6	2 327.9
April	1 262.7	1 542.1	102.7	6.2	70.6	1 266.9	1 542.3	105.3	6.4	70.7	2 330.9
May	1 263.3	1 546.3	103.9	6.3	70.7	1 267.5	1 547.8	93.9	5.7	70.3	2 333.9
June	1 262.9	1 550.5	105.9	6.4	70.9	1 262.6	1 544.5	109.6	6.6	70.8	2 337.0
July	1 261.3	1 554.3	108.2	6.5	71.0	1 258.1	1 560.9	111.3	6.7	71.4	2 340.7
August	1 259.8	1 557.7	110.3	6.6	71.1	1 262.3	1 559.3	109.4	6.6	71.2	2 344.5
September	1 260.1	1 561.0	111.6	6.7	71.2	1 260.4	1 562.8	113.2	6.8	71.4	2 348.3
October	1 262.5	1 565.0	111.7	6.7	71.3	1 257.6	1 557.0	109.3	6.6	70.9	2 351.7
November	1 266.6	1 569.6	110.9	6.6	71.3	1 260.8	1 570.5	114.6	6.8	71.5	2 355.2
December	1 271.3	1 574.8	109.8	6.5	71.4	1 276.0	1 574.1	107.4	6.4	71.3	2 358.6
2015											
January	1 275.9	1 579.9	108.7	6.4	71.5	1 280.5	1 582.6	111.9	6.6	71.7	2 363.4
February	1 279.9	1 584.7	107.5	6.4	71.5	1 281.3	1 588.9	103.0	6.1	71.4	2 368.2
FEMALES											
February 2012	676.3	1 290.3	77.5	5.7	58.7	676.5	1 279.0	75.5	5.6	58.1	2 330.2
February 2013	682.1	1 307.8	81.9	5.9	58.6	684.7	1 316.1	81.8	5.9	59.0	2 371.4
2014											
February	687.5	1 320.0	92.5	6.6	58.5	681.5	1 318.9	93.9	6.6	58.5	2 416.4
March	690.2	1 319.1	93.8	6.6	58.4	694.2	1 321.0	94.8	6.7	58.5	2 420.8
April	693.2	1 318.7	94.7	6.7	58.3	695.8	1 312.9	93.3	6.6	58.0	2 423.6
May	695.7	1 319.0	95.4	6.7	58.3	693.7	1 324.7	96.8	6.8	58.6	2 426.4
June	697.0	1 319.7	96.2	6.8	58.3	700.4	1 317.0	92.5	6.6	58.0	2 429.3
July	697.5	1 321.0	97.0	6.8	58.3	695.5	1 323.1	98.2	6.9	58.4	2 433.1
August	697.9	1 323.8	97.7	6.9	58.3	696.9	1 322.7	99.6	7.0	58.4	2 437.0
September	697.9	1 328.0	98.0	6.9	58.4	696.0	1 326.8	96.3	6.8	58.3	2 440.8
October	697.6	1 333.3	97.4	6.8	58.5	699.7	1 332.0	99.4	6.9	58.6	2 444.6
November	696.7	1 339.2	96.1	6.7	58.6	698.7	1 332.0	95.7	6.7	58.3	2 448.3
December	695.3	1 344.9	94.4	6.6	58.7	697.2	1 358.9	95.2	6.6	59.3	2 452.1
2015											
January	693.6	1 349.8	92.5	6.4	58.7	690.9	1 346.7	93.7	6.5	58.6	2 456.7
February	691.9	1 353.9	90.6	6.3	58.7	689.1	1 353.2	86.4	6.0	58.5	2 461.3
PERSONS											
February 2012	1 939.9	2 816.5	161.1	5.4	65.2	1 939.6	2 801.5	161.2	5.4	64.8	4 570.1
February 2013	1 947.9	2 842.5	173.2	5.7	64.9	1 936.5	2 851.8	167.4	5.5	64.9	4 649.9
2014											
February	1 949.0	2 857.3	195.6	6.4	64.4	1 941.7	2 853.9	194.3	6.4	64.3	4 739.7
March	1 951.9	2 858.0	196.3	6.4	64.3	1 953.7	2 859.9	198.8	6.5	64.4	4 748.6
April	1 955.9	2 860.8	197.4	6.5	64.3	1 962.7	2 855.2	198.6	6.5	64.2	4 754.5
May	1 959.0	2 865.3	199.3	6.5	64.4	1 961.3	2 872.6	190.7	6.2	64.3	4 760.4
June	1 959.8	2 870.2	202.1	6.6	64.4	1 963.0	2 861.5	202.0	6.6	64.3	4 766.3
July	1 958.8	2 875.3	205.2	6.7	64.5	1 953.5	2 884.0	209.5	6.8	64.8	4 773.9
August	1 957.7	2 881.4	208.1	6.7	64.6	1 959.1	2 882.0	209.0	6.8	64.6	4 781.5
September	1 958.0	2 889.0	209.6	6.8	64.7	1 956.4	2 889.5	209.5	6.8	64.7	4 789.1
October	1 960.1	2 898.3	209.1	6.7	64.8	1 957.4	2 889.0	208.7	6.7	64.6	4 796.3
November	1 963.3	2 908.9	207.0	6.6	64.9	1 959.5	2 902.5	210.3	6.8	64.8	4 803.5
December	1 966.5	2 919.7	204.2	6.5	64.9	1 973.2	2 933.0	202.7	6.5	65.2	4 810.7
2015											
January	1 969.6	2 929.7	201.1	6.4	65.0	1 971.4	2 929.4	205.6	6.6	65.0	4 820.1
February	1 971.8	2 938.6	198.1	6.3	65.0	1 970.4	2 942.2	189.5	6.0	64.8	4 829.5

# LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER)—Queensland

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	
MALES											
February 2012	1 048.1	1 236.6	68.6	5.3	73.1	1 039.3	1 228.8	74.7	5.7	73.0	1 785.6
February 2013	1 047.4	1 233.3	78.1	6.0	72.1	1 051.6	1 239.7	78.0	5.9	72.4	1 819.2
2014											
February	1 040.1	1 242.0	81.6	6.2	71.6	1 032.8	1 242.1	81.8	6.2	71.6	1 849.2
March	1 041.2	1 245.4	82.3	6.2	71.7	1 043.3	1 251.6	81.4	6.1	72.0	1 852.5
April	1 042.1	1 247.4	83.2	6.3	71.8	1 043.1	1 251.0	85.2	6.4	72.0	1 854.6
May	1 041.3	1 247.1	84.2	6.3	71.7	1 051.3	1 248.2	80.2	6.0	71.5	1 856.7
June	1 038.8	1 244.5	85.3	6.4	71.5	1 038.2	1 244.7	84.7	6.4	71.5	1 858.9
July	1 035.3	1 240.7	86.4	6.5	71.3	1 029.7	1 235.9	90.6	6.8	71.3	1 861.3
August	1 031.9	1 237.3	87.0	6.6	71.1	1 031.0	1 240.3	89.9	6.8	71.4	1 863.8
September	1 029.5	1 235.3	87.2	6.6	70.9	1 026.9	1 231.3	79.9	6.1	70.3	1 866.2
October	1 028.7	1 234.8	87.4	6.6	70.8	1 030.8	1 237.3	90.4	6.8	71.1	1 868.5
November	1 028.6	1 235.1	87.8	6.6	70.7	1 028.5	1 230.8	91.0	6.9	70.7	1 870.8
December	1 028.4	1 235.8	88.6	6.7	70.7	1 031.4	1 239.5	82.7	6.3	70.6	1 873.1
2015											
January	1 028.1	1 236.8	89.5	6.7	70.7	1 024.6	1 234.5	90.5	6.8	70.6	1 876.0
February	1 027.7	1 237.5	90.7	6.8	70.7	1 028.4	1 240.6	93.8	7.0	71.0	1 878.8
FEMALES											
February 2012	595.1	1 050.1	64.1	5.7	60.8	593.3	1 049.9	63.5	5.7	60.8	1 831.6
February 2013	586.5	1 058.2	62.5	5.6	60.0	588.3	1 055.2	62.5	5.6	59.8	1 869.3
2014											
February	584.4	1 077.8	69.8	6.1	60.3	584.8	1 081.4	68.7	6.0	60.4	1 903.1
March	585.9	1 082.1	71.5	6.2	60.5	583.5	1 084.9	70.4	6.1	60.6	1 905.9
April	588.3	1 087.5	72.7	6.3	60.8	583.2	1 086.9	75.4	6.5	60.9	1 908.2
May	590.6	1 091.9	73.6	6.3	61.0	594.3	1 090.6	73.4	6.3	60.9	1 910.5
June	591.4	1 093.6	74.4	6.4	61.0	595.2	1 094.8	75.3	6.4	61.2	1 912.8
July	590.5	1 092.0	75.5	6.5	60.9	596.9	1 098.3	72.9	6.2	61.1	1 915.8
August	589.1	1 088.5	76.5	6.6	60.7	589.1	1 091.0	75.2	6.4	60.8	1 918.7
September	588.6	1 085.1	77.0	6.6	60.5	579.4	1 086.0	75.8	6.5	60.5	1 921.7
October	590.1	1 082.8	77.0	6.6	60.3	589.7	1 070.1	84.1	7.3	60.0	1 924.3
November	593.5	1 082.6	76.2	6.6	60.1	581.9	1 078.0	76.6	6.6	59.9	1 926.8
December	597.8	1 084.0	74.9	6.5	60.1	612.7	1 091.0	71.7	6.2	60.3	1 929.4
2015											
January	601.8	1 086.0	73.6	6.3	60.0	605.8	1 088.7	71.7	6.2	60.1	1 932.3
February	605.6	1 088.6	72.2	6.2	60.0	601.3	1 090.9	72.5	6.2	60.1	1 935.3
PERSONS											
February 2012	1 643.2	2 286.7	132.7	5.5	66.9	1 632.6	2 278.7	138.1	5.7	66.8	3 617.2
February 2013	1 633.9	2 291.5	140.5	5.8	65.9	1 639.9	2 294.9	140.5	5.8	66.0	3 688.5
2014											
February	1 624.5	2 319.8	151.4	6.1	65.9	1 617.6	2 323.5	150.5	6.1	65.9	3 752.2
March	1 627.1	2 327.5	153.8	6.2	66.0	1 626.9	2 336.5	151.7	6.1	66.2	3 758.4
April	1 630.4	2 334.9	156.0	6.3	66.2	1 626.3	2 337.9	160.6	6.4	66.4	3 762.8
May	1 631.9	2 339.0	157.8	6.3	66.3	1 645.5	2 338.7	153.6	6.2	66.2	3 767.2
June	1 630.1	2 338.1	159.8	6.4	66.2	1 633.4	2 339.5	160.0	6.4	66.3	3 771.6
July	1 625.8	2 332.8	161.9	6.5	66.0	1 626.6	2 334.1	163.5	6.5	66.1	3 777.1
August	1 620.9	2 325.8	163.5	6.6	65.8	1 620.0	2 331.3	165.1	6.6	66.0	3 782.5
September	1 618.1	2 320.4	164.3	6.6	65.6	1 606.3	2 317.3	155.7	6.3	65.3	3 787.9
October	1 618.7	2 317.6	164.4	6.6	65.4	1 620.4	2 307.3	174.6	7.0	65.4	3 792.8
November	1 622.1	2 317.7	164.0	6.6	65.3	1 610.4	2 308.8	167.6	6.8	65.2	3 797.6
December	1 626.2	2 319.8	163.5	6.6	65.3	1 644.1	2 330.5	154.4	6.2	65.3	3 802.5
2015											
January	1 629.9	2 322.8	163.1	6.6	65.3	1 630.3	2 323.3	162.3	6.5	65.3	3 808.3
February	1 633.3	2 326.2	163.0	6.5	65.3	1 629.7	2 331.4	166.3	6.7	65.5	3 814.1



# LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER)—South Australia

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	
MALES											
February 2012	353.7	436.1	25.2	5.5	69.4	351.1	434.1	26.0	5.6	69.2	664.6
February 2013	352.0	433.8	27.6	6.0	68.8	348.7	431.2	28.9	6.3	68.6	670.6
2014											
February	352.5	430.9	32.7	7.1	68.4	354.4	431.2	30.9	6.7	68.2	677.5
March	353.2	431.4	33.1	7.1	68.5	352.5	430.6	34.0	7.3	68.5	678.4
April	353.7	432.1	33.5	7.2	68.6	353.3	432.1	32.6	7.0	68.5	678.9
May	354.2	432.7	33.7	7.2	68.7	354.0	432.8	32.3	6.9	68.5	679.3
June	355.0	433.4	33.5	7.2	68.7	354.0	433.1	38.1	8.1	69.3	679.7
July	355.9	434.0	32.8	7.0	68.6	354.7	432.9	34.2	7.3	68.7	680.3
August	356.4	434.1	31.7	6.8	68.4	358.6	436.9	26.8	5.8	68.1	680.8
September	356.1	433.7	30.9	6.6	68.2	357.1	432.7	31.6	6.8	68.1	681.4
October	355.2	432.8	30.5	6.6	67.9	356.8	433.2	31.3	6.7	68.1	681.8
November	354.0	431.7	30.5	6.6	67.7	353.7	431.9	30.0	6.5	67.7	682.2
December	352.9	430.6	30.8	6.7	67.6	348.7	430.3	29.5	6.4	67.3	682.7
2015											
January	352.0	429.6	31.2	6.8	67.4	353.1	429.1	33.1	7.2	67.6	683.6
February	351.2	428.6	31.7	6.9	67.3	352.5	428.6	31.3	6.8	67.2	684.4
FEMALES											
February 2012	180.7	373.0	19.4	4.9	56.9	182.3	374.6	19.9	5.0	57.2	689.8
February 2013	186.4	378.9	22.7	5.7	57.7	183.8	378.6	21.8	5.4	57.5	696.1
2014											
February	175.8	367.1	24.8	6.3	55.8	176.3	366.5	24.8	6.3	55.7	702.9
March	176.2	367.7	24.9	6.4	55.8	174.3	366.9	27.1	6.9	56.0	703.7
April	177.1	368.9	25.0	6.4	55.9	178.3	372.4	22.1	5.6	56.0	704.2
May	178.4	370.1	25.2	6.4	56.1	175.8	366.4	26.8	6.8	55.8	704.6
June	179.9	371.1	25.4	6.4	56.2	185.1	372.8	25.7	6.4	56.5	705.1
July	181.2	371.4	25.5	6.4	56.2	179.6	370.2	25.3	6.4	56.1	705.6
August	182.2	371.1	25.7	6.5	56.2	181.2	375.0	24.9	6.2	56.6	706.1
September	182.6	370.4	26.0	6.6	56.1	180.3	370.3	26.4	6.6	56.1	706.6
October	182.6	369.6	26.5	6.7	56.0	187.5	366.5	26.3	6.7	55.6	707.1
November	182.3	368.9	27.0	6.8	56.0	181.9	369.1	27.4	6.9	56.0	707.5
December	181.9	368.5	27.6	7.0	55.9	179.6	366.7	26.8	6.8	55.6	708.0
2015											
January	181.3	368.2	28.1	7.1	55.9	183.1	372.8	29.4	7.3	56.7	708.8
February	180.6	367.9	28.5	7.2	55.9	178.7	366.0	27.9	7.1	55.5	709.6
PERSONS											
February 2012	534.4	809.1	44.6	5.2	63.0	533.4	808.7	45.9	5.4	63.1	1 354.4
February 2013	538.4	812.7	50.4	5.8	63.1	532.6	809.8	50.7	5.9	63.0	1 366.8
2014											
February	528.3	798.0	57.5	6.7	62.0	530.7	797.8	55.7	6.5	61.8	1 380.4
March	529.4	799.2	58.0	6.8	62.0	526.8	797.5	61.1	7.1	62.1	1 382.2
April	530.9	801.0	58.5	6.8	62.2	531.6	804.6	54.7	6.4	62.1	1 383.0
May	532.7	802.9	58.9	6.8	62.3	529.8	799.2	59.1	6.9	62.0	1 383.9
June	535.0	804.5	58.8	6.8	62.3	539.1	806.0	63.8	7.3	62.8	1 384.8
July	537.1	805.3	58.2	6.7	62.3	534.3	803.1	59.5	6.9	62.2	1 385.8
August	538.5	805.2	57.4	6.7	62.2	539.8	811.8	51.6	6.0	62.3	1 386.9
September	538.7	804.1	56.9	6.6	62.0	537.4	803.1	57.9	6.7	62.0	1 388.0
October	537.8	802.5	57.0	6.6	61.9	544.3	799.8	57.7	6.7	61.7	1 388.9
November	536.3	800.7	57.5	6.7	61.7	535.6	800.9	57.3	6.7	61.8	1 389.8
December	534.7	799.1	58.4	6.8	61.6	528.2	797.0	56.3	6.6	61.4	1 390.7
2015											
January	533.3	797.9	59.3	6.9	61.6	536.3	801.9	62.5	7.2	62.1	1 392.4
February	531.8	796.5	60.2	7.0	61.5	531.2	794.6	59.2	6.9	61.2	1 394.1

# LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER)—Western Australia

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	
MALES											
February 2012	622.2	721.8	27.8	3.7	76.9	626.6	724.7	26.5	3.5	77.0	975.4
February 2013	639.3	741.8	34.3	4.4	76.5	635.8	742.2	35.4	4.6	76.6	1 014.9
2014											
February	640.5	754.0	39.8	5.0	76.2	643.6	750.9	44.6	5.6	76.3	1 042.4
March	640.7	754.9	40.3	5.1	76.2	647.0	761.7	37.8	4.7	76.5	1 044.6
April	640.5	755.5	40.4	5.1	76.1	639.3	754.4	39.8	5.0	75.9	1 045.7
May	639.8	755.5	40.1	5.0	76.0	638.4	755.5	40.2	5.1	76.0	1 046.9
June	639.7	755.4	39.7	5.0	75.8	633.5	756.5	40.8	5.1	76.1	1 048.0
July	640.7	755.6	39.9	5.0	75.7	646.0	754.7	39.6	5.0	75.6	1 050.2
August	643.5	756.5	40.4	5.1	75.7	642.9	755.1	38.6	4.9	75.4	1 052.4
September	647.5	758.7	41.3	5.2	75.9	644.9	755.2	41.3	5.2	75.5	1 054.6
October	651.5	761.6	42.3	5.3	76.1	647.4	763.2	42.9	5.3	76.3	1 056.4
November	654.8	764.5	43.3	5.4	76.3	663.5	768.1	43.5	5.4	76.7	1 058.3
December	657.2	767.1	44.2	5.5	76.5	656.9	765.7	46.4	5.7	76.6	1 060.1
2015											
January	658.8	769.3	45.0	5.5	76.7	661.0	769.5	42.1	5.2	76.4	1 062.3
February	660.0	771.0	45.6	5.6	76.8	654.6	770.8	46.5	5.7	76.8	1 064.6
FEMALES											
February 2012	304.7	566.5	25.2	4.3	61.2	306.0	566.1	24.9	4.2	61.2	966.3
February 2013	314.5	584.6	29.4	4.8	61.6	312.0	584.7	28.6	4.7	61.5	997.1
2014											
February	313.8	584.8	30.9	5.0	60.1	320.9	583.7	33.8	5.5	60.2	1 025.0
March	313.2	585.3	31.4	5.1	60.1	315.0	582.5	29.8	4.9	59.6	1 027.2
April	312.7	586.7	31.1	5.0	60.1	304.2	586.5	29.0	4.7	59.9	1 028.3
May	312.7	589.0	30.6	4.9	60.2	314.4	588.7	30.4	4.9	60.1	1 029.5
June	313.4	591.7	30.4	4.9	60.3	311.4	592.1	30.7	4.9	60.4	1 030.6
July	315.0	594.8	30.5	4.9	60.5	320.2	597.3	31.5	5.0	60.9	1 033.0
August	316.9	597.6	31.1	5.0	60.7	313.9	594.7	31.9	5.1	60.5	1 035.3
September	318.2	599.4	32.2	5.1	60.9	316.2	599.4	30.8	4.9	60.7	1 037.7
October	318.6	600.4	33.5	5.3	61.0	323.7	603.7	32.2	5.1	61.2	1 039.8
November	318.5	601.0	35.1	5.5	61.0	318.7	602.6	33.2	5.2	61.0	1 041.8
December	318.3	601.3	36.7	5.8	61.1	316.8	598.6	40.4	6.3	61.2	1 043.9
2015											
January	317.9	601.4	38.1	6.0	61.1	315.9	600.2	39.4	6.2	61.1	1 046.2
February	317.9	601.5	39.3	6.1	61.2	318.7	602.2	37.7	5.9	61.0	1 048.5
PERSONS											
February 2012	926.8	1 288.3	53.0	4.0	69.1	932.7	1 290.8	51.3	3.8	69.1	1 941.7
February 2013	953.8	1 326.3	63.6	4.6	69.1	947.8	1 326.9	64.0	4.6	69.1	2 012.0
2014											
February	954.3	1 338.8	70.8	5.0	68.2	964.5	1 334.6	78.4	5.5	68.3	2 067.4
March	953.9	1 340.2	71.7	5.1	68.2	961.9	1 344.2	67.6	4.8	68.1	2 071.8
April	953.2	1 342.2	71.5	5.1	68.2	943.5	1 340.9	68.8	4.9	68.0	2 074.0
May	952.5	1 344.4	70.7	5.0	68.1	952.8	1 344.2	70.6	5.0	68.1	2 076.3
June	953.1	1 347.1	70.1	4.9	68.1	944.9	1 348.6	71.5	5.0	68.3	2 078.6
July	955.7	1 350.4	70.4	5.0	68.2	966.2	1 352.0	71.1	5.0	68.3	2 083.2
August	960.3	1 354.1	71.6	5.0	68.3	956.8	1 349.8	70.5	5.0	68.0	2 087.7
September	965.7	1 358.1	73.5	5.1	68.4	961.2	1 354.5	72.2	5.1	68.2	2 092.3
October	970.1	1 362.0	75.8	5.3	68.6	971.1	1 366.9	75.0	5.2	68.8	2 096.2
November	973.3	1 365.5	78.4	5.4	68.7	982.2	1 370.7	76.7	5.3	68.9	2 100.1
December	975.5	1 368.4	80.9	5.6	68.9	973.8	1 364.3	86.9	6.0	69.0	2 104.0
2015											
January	976.8	1 370.7	83.1	5.7	69.0	976.9	1 369.7	81.5	5.6	68.8	2 108.5
February	977.9	1 372.6	84.8	5.8	69.0	973.3	1 373.0	84.2	5.8	69.0	2 113.0

# LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER)—Tasmania

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	
MALES											
February 2012	101.0	125.5	9.8	7.3	65.8	102.1	126.6	9.9	7.3	66.4	205.5
February 2013	99.2	125.8	9.4	7.0	65.6	99.4	126.5	9.0	6.7	65.7	206.2
2014											
February	99.1	124.1	10.9	8.1	65.2	97.7	123.2	10.8	8.1	64.7	207.2
March	100.1	125.1	10.9	8.0	65.6	99.7	125.9	11.4	8.3	66.2	207.3
April	100.8	126.0	10.9	7.9	66.0	104.3	128.0	11.2	8.1	67.1	207.4
May	101.1	126.4	10.7	7.8	66.1	100.5	124.5	11.1	8.2	65.4	207.4
June	101.0	126.5	10.7	7.8	66.1	101.2	126.6	9.7	7.1	65.7	207.4
July	100.7	126.5	10.7	7.8	66.1	100.0	127.5	10.4	7.6	66.5	207.5
August	100.6	126.6	10.8	7.9	66.2	99.0	126.6	10.6	7.7	66.1	207.6
September	100.7	126.9	10.9	7.9	66.3	101.2	125.4	11.5	8.4	65.9	207.7
October	101.1	127.2	10.9	7.9	66.5	102.1	126.2	11.3	8.2	66.2	207.8
November	101.4	127.5	10.7	7.8	66.5	101.3	129.7	11.0	7.8	67.7	207.9
December	101.5	127.7	10.5	7.6	66.4	101.5	128.1	10.1	7.3	66.4	208.0
2015											
January	101.6	127.8	10.2	7.4	66.3	102.1	127.5	9.8	7.1	66.0	208.2
February	101.5	127.9	10.0	7.2	66.2	100.6	127.0	10.0	7.3	65.8	208.3
FEMALES											
February 2012	51.1	109.5	7.9	6.7	55.7	51.0	109.5	8.0	6.8	55.8	210.8
February 2013	48.2	107.5	8.5	7.3	55.0	49.8	109.7	7.9	6.7	55.7	211.2
2014											
February	51.5	109.6	8.1	6.8	55.5	50.6	110.1	7.6	6.4	55.5	212.2
March	51.6	109.9	8.0	6.8	55.5	51.5	108.6	8.0	6.8	54.9	212.3
April	51.6	110.0	8.1	6.8	55.6	52.4	111.1	8.0	6.7	56.1	212.4
May	51.5	110.2	8.1	6.9	55.7	52.0	110.0	7.7	6.5	55.4	212.4
June	51.4	110.4	8.1	6.9	55.8	50.6	110.8	8.7	7.3	56.2	212.5
July	51.2	110.8	8.0	6.7	55.9	51.3	109.5	8.5	7.2	55.5	212.6
August	51.1	111.5	7.7	6.5	56.1	51.4	111.7	7.6	6.3	56.1	212.7
September	51.2	112.2	7.4	6.2	56.2	50.7	112.1	7.8	6.5	56.4	212.8
October	51.4	112.8	7.1	5.9	56.3	51.0	113.3	6.1	5.1	56.1	212.9
November	51.8	113.2	6.9	5.8	56.4	51.9	113.9	6.9	5.7	56.7	213.0
December	52.1	113.3	6.8	5.7	56.4	52.9	113.6	7.0	5.8	56.6	213.1
2015											
January	52.4	113.3	6.8	5.7	56.3	52.3	112.8	7.1	5.9	56.3	213.2
February	52.6	113.1	6.8	5.7	56.2	52.3	112.3	6.8	5.7	55.9	213.3
PERSONS											
February 2012	152.1	235.0	17.7	7.0	60.7	153.2	236.1	17.9	7.1	61.0	416.4
February 2013	147.4	233.3	17.9	7.1	60.2	149.3	236.2	16.9	6.7	60.6	417.4
2014											
February	150.6	233.7	19.0	7.5	60.2	148.3	233.3	18.4	7.3	60.0	419.4
March	151.8	235.0	18.9	7.5	60.5	151.2	234.5	19.3	7.6	60.5	419.7
April	152.4	236.0	18.9	7.4	60.7	156.7	239.1	19.2	7.4	61.5	419.7
May	152.6	236.6	18.9	7.4	60.8	152.5	234.5	18.8	7.4	60.3	419.9
June	152.4	236.9	18.8	7.4	60.9	151.8	237.4	18.4	7.2	60.9	419.9
July	151.9	237.3	18.7	7.3	60.9	151.3	237.0	18.9	7.4	60.9	420.1
August	151.7	238.1	18.5	7.2	61.1	150.4	238.2	18.1	7.1	61.0	420.2
September	151.9	239.1	18.3	7.1	61.2	151.9	237.5	19.3	7.5	61.1	420.4
October	152.6	240.0	18.0	7.0	61.3	153.0	239.5	17.4	6.8	61.1	420.6
November	153.2	240.7	17.7	6.8	61.4	153.2	243.6	17.9	6.8	62.1	420.9
December	153.6	241.0	17.3	6.7	61.4	154.3	241.7	17.1	6.6	61.5	421.1
2015											
January	153.9	241.1	17.0	6.6	61.3	154.4	240.4	16.9	6.6	61.1	421.3
February	154.1	241.0	16.8	6.5	61.2	152.9	239.3	16.9	6.6	60.8	421.6

	TREND					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000
MALES						
February 2012	58.7	66.8	3.4	4.8	78.1	89.7
February 2013	60.4	69.1	3.5	4.9	77.4	93.9
2014						
February	67.1	74.8	3.0	3.9	80.4	96.8
March	67.7	75.0	3.1	3.9	80.5	97.2
April	67.9	74.9	3.2	4.1	80.2	97.3
May	67.5	74.3	3.4	4.3	79.7	97.5
June	66.7	73.5	3.5	4.5	78.9	97.6
July	65.8	72.7	3.5	4.7	77.9	97.8
August	65.0	72.0	3.5	4.6	77.1	97.9
September	64.6	71.7	3.4	4.5	76.5	98.0
October	64.4	71.7	3.3	4.3	76.3	98.1
November	64.6	71.9	3.2	4.3	76.5	98.2
December	64.6	72.1	3.3	4.4	76.7	98.3
2015						
January	64.7	72.3	3.4	4.5	77.0	98.4
February	64.7	72.5	3.7	4.8	77.3	98.5
FEMALES						
February 2012	41.8	57.3	2.5	4.2	70.6	84.6
February 2013	41.5	56.8	2.8	4.7	68.8	86.7
2014						
February	43.5	59.7	2.3	3.6	70.2	88.3
March	44.1	60.0	2.2	3.6	70.5	88.4
April	44.3	60.2	2.2	3.6	70.6	88.4
May	44.2	60.0	2.3	3.7	70.3	88.5
June	43.6	59.5	2.3	3.8	69.7	88.6
July	42.8	58.9	2.3	3.8	68.9	88.8
August	42.1	58.3	2.3	3.8	68.1	88.9
September	41.8	58.1	2.2	3.7	67.8	89.1
October	42.0	58.4	2.1	3.5	67.9	89.2
November	42.5	59.0	2.1	3.4	68.4	89.3
December	43.2	59.6	2.1	3.4	69.1	89.3
2015						
January	43.8	60.2	2.2	3.5	69.8	89.4
February	44.3	60.8	2.3	3.6	70.5	89.5
PERSONS						
February 2012	100.5	124.1	5.8	4.5	74.5	174.4
February 2013	101.8	126.0	6.3	4.8	73.3	180.5
2014						
February	110.7	134.5	5.3	3.8	75.5	185.1
March	111.8	135.1	5.3	3.8	75.7	185.5
April	112.2	135.0	5.4	3.9	75.6	185.8
May	111.7	134.3	5.6	4.0	75.2	186.0
June	110.3	133.0	5.8	4.2	74.5	186.2
July	108.6	131.5	5.9	4.3	73.7	186.5
August	107.1	130.3	5.8	4.2	72.8	186.9
September	106.3	129.8	5.6	4.1	72.4	187.2
October	106.4	130.1	5.4	4.0	72.3	187.3
November	107.1	130.9	5.3	3.9	72.6	187.5
December	107.8	131.7	5.4	4.0	73.1	187.6
2015						
January	108.5	132.6	5.6	4.1	73.6	187.8
February	109.0	133.3	5.9	4.3	74.1	188.0

	TREND					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000
MALES						
February 2012	89.9	107.8	4.2	3.7	76.7	146.0
February 2013	89.1	107.8	5.5	4.8	76.4	148.2
2014						
February	90.2	110.8	3.8	3.3	76.1	150.6
March	90.5	111.2	3.6	3.1	76.1	150.8
April	90.7	111.3	3.5	3.1	76.1	150.9
May	90.8	111.1	3.5	3.0	75.9	150.9
June	90.6	110.3	3.7	3.2	75.5	151.0
July	90.3	109.2	4.1	3.6	75.0	151.1
August	90.1	108.0	4.6	4.1	74.5	151.2
September	90.0	107.1	5.0	4.5	74.0	151.4
October	90.0	106.6	5.1	4.6	73.7	151.5
November	89.9	106.4	5.1	4.5	73.5	151.7
December	89.7	106.5	4.9	4.4	73.3	151.9
2015						
January	89.3	106.6	4.7	4.2	73.2	152.1
February	89.1	106.9	4.4	4.0	73.1	152.4
FEMALES						
February 2012	64.3	100.9	3.5	3.4	68.2	153.2
February 2013	66.9	102.9	4.5	4.2	69.0	155.6
2014						
February	65.4	100.6	4.1	3.9	66.4	157.7
March	65.6	100.4	4.2	4.0	66.3	157.9
April	65.5	100.1	4.5	4.3	66.2	157.9
May	65.3	99.9	4.9	4.7	66.3	158.0
June	65.3	100.0	5.3	5.0	66.6	158.0
July	65.6	100.4	5.6	5.3	67.0	158.2
August	65.8	101.0	5.8	5.4	67.5	158.3
September	65.9	101.6	5.8	5.4	67.7	158.5
October	65.6	101.9	5.7	5.3	67.8	158.7
November	65.1	101.9	5.6	5.2	67.7	158.9
December	64.4	101.9	5.5	5.1	67.5	159.1
2015						
January	63.7	101.7	5.5	5.1	67.3	159.3
February	63.1	101.4	5.5	5.1	67.1	159.5
PERSONS						
February 2012	154.2	208.7	7.7	3.5	72.4	299.1
February 2013	156.0	210.7	9.9	4.5	72.6	303.8
2014						
February	155.6	211.4	7.9	3.6	71.1	308.3
March	156.1	211.5	7.8	3.6	71.1	308.7
April	156.2	211.4	8.0	3.6	71.1	308.8
May	156.0	211.0	8.4	3.8	71.0	308.9
June	155.9	210.3	9.0	4.1	70.9	309.0
July	155.9	209.6	9.7	4.4	70.9	309.3
August	156.0	209.0	10.4	4.7	70.9	309.6
September	155.9	208.7	10.8	4.9	70.8	309.8
October	155.6	208.5	10.8	4.9	70.7	310.2
November	155.0	208.4	10.6	4.9	70.5	310.6
December	154.1	208.4	10.4	4.7	70.3	311.0
2015						
January	153.1	208.3	10.1	4.6	70.2	311.4
February	152.2	208.4	9.9	4.5	70.0	311.9

	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED		Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		Participation rate
	Full time	Part time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total				Looking for f/t work	Total	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
MALES											
New South Wales	1 661.6	327.4	1 989.0	108.6	133.7	2 122.7	905.0	3 027.7	6.1	6.3	70.1
Victoria	1 304.5	305.9	1 610.4	73.4	102.7	1 713.1	655.1	2 368.2	5.3	6.0	72.3
Queensland	1 041.5	208.3	1 249.8	85.2	107.1	1 356.9	522.0	1 878.8	7.6	7.9	72.2
South Australia	359.5	74.1	433.7	24.7	32.4	466.0	218.4	684.4	6.4	6.9	68.1
Western Australia	663.4	118.0	781.4	42.3	51.9	833.4	231.2	1 064.6	6.0	6.2	78.3
Tasmania	103.4	26.3	129.8	7.8	10.4	140.2	68.1	208.3	7.1	7.4	67.3
Northern Territory	64.9	7.8	72.6	3.0	3.8	76.5	22.0	98.5	4.4	5.0	77.6
Australian Capital Territory	88.8	19.1	107.9	3.9	4.9	112.9	39.5	152.4	4.2	4.4	74.1
<b>Australia</b>	<b>5 287.7</b>	<b>1 087.0</b>	<b>6 374.6</b>	<b>349.0</b>	<b>447.0</b>	<b>6 821.6</b>	<b>2 661.3</b>	<b>9 482.9</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>71.9</b>
FEMALES											
New South Wales	928.3	747.9	1 676.3	73.2	126.8	1 803.1	1 332.0	3 135.1	7.3	7.0	57.5
Victoria	700.1	665.1	1 365.1	53.0	95.8	1 461.0	1 000.4	2 461.3	7.0	6.6	59.4
Queensland	606.7	490.3	1 097.0	53.5	80.1	1 177.2	758.1	1 935.3	8.1	6.8	60.8
South Australia	180.8	189.2	370.1	20.9	29.8	399.9	309.8	709.6	10.4	7.5	56.3
Western Australia	323.4	282.5	605.9	23.6	42.6	648.4	400.0	1 048.5	6.8	6.6	61.8
Tasmania	52.8	59.1	111.8	4.7	7.4	119.2	94.1	213.3	8.3	6.2	55.9
Northern Territory	45.6	16.0	61.6	2.1	2.8	64.4	25.2	89.5	4.5	4.3	71.9
Australian Capital Territory	64.4	35.8	100.2	4.2	7.0	107.2	52.3	159.5	6.1	6.6	67.2
<b>Australia</b>	<b>2 902.1</b>	<b>2 485.9</b>	<b>5 388.0</b>	<b>235.3</b>	<b>392.3</b>	<b>5 780.4</b>	<b>3 971.8</b>	<b>9 752.2</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>59.3</b>
PERSONS											
New South Wales	2 590.0	1 075.3	3 665.2	181.8	260.6	3 925.8	2 237.0	6 162.8	6.6	6.6	63.7
Victoria	2 004.6	971.0	2 975.5	126.4	198.5	3 174.1	1 655.4	4 829.5	5.9	6.3	65.7
Queensland	1 648.2	698.7	2 346.8	138.7	187.2	2 534.0	1 280.1	3 814.1	7.8	7.4	66.4
South Australia	540.4	263.3	803.7	45.6	62.2	865.9	528.2	1 394.1	7.8	7.2	62.1
Western Australia	986.8	400.5	1 387.3	66.0	94.5	1 481.8	631.2	2 113.0	6.3	6.4	70.1
Tasmania	156.2	85.4	241.6	12.6	17.8	259.4	162.2	421.6	7.5	6.8	61.5
Northern Territory	110.5	23.8	134.3	5.1	6.6	140.9	47.2	188.0	4.4	4.7	74.9
Australian Capital Territory	153.2	54.9	208.1	8.1	12.0	220.1	91.8	311.9	5.0	5.4	70.6
<b>Australia</b>	<b>8 189.7</b>	<b>3 572.9</b>	<b>11 762.7</b>	<b>584.3</b>	<b>839.3</b>	<b>12 602.0</b>	<b>6 633.1</b>	<b>19 235.1</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>65.5</b>

	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		Participation rate	Employment to population ratio	Unemployment to population ratio – looking for full-time work
	Full time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total			
'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	%	%	
MALES									
February 2012	130.0	325.6	36.9	70.5	22.1	17.8	53.0	43.5	4.9
February 2013	124.0	323.1	38.1	72.9	23.5	18.4	52.6	42.9	5.1
2014									
February	113.5	318.2	34.7	66.7	23.4	17.3	50.9	42.1	4.6
March	114.1	317.8	36.5	69.6	24.2	18.0	51.2	42.0	4.8
April	114.3	316.9	38.3	73.0	25.1	18.7	51.5	41.9	5.1
May	114.0	315.5	39.3	75.9	25.6	19.4	51.7	41.7	5.2
June	113.2	314.0	39.6	78.1	25.9	19.9	51.8	41.5	5.2
July	112.1	313.3	39.2	79.5	25.9	20.2	51.9	41.4	5.2
August	110.8	313.4	38.5	80.3	25.8	20.4	52.0	41.4	5.1
September	109.4	313.7	37.9	81.0	25.7	20.5	52.2	41.5	5.0
October	108.4	313.7	37.7	81.8	25.8	20.7	52.3	41.5	5.0
November	107.7	313.1	38.1	82.7	26.1	20.9	52.3	41.4	5.0
December	107.1	311.9	38.5	83.8	26.4	21.2	52.3	41.2	5.1
2015									
January	106.6	310.3	38.9	84.6	26.7	21.4	52.2	41.0	5.1
February	106.3	308.6	39.4	85.6	27.0	21.7	52.1	40.8	5.2
FEMALES									
February 2012	67.6	338.7	27.1	63.6	28.6	15.8	56.8	47.8	3.8
February 2013	58.4	342.5	23.6	58.6	28.8	14.6	56.4	48.1	3.3
2014									
February	54.8	330.0	25.9	64.5	32.1	16.4	55.1	46.1	3.6
March	54.7	329.1	26.6	66.2	32.7	16.7	55.2	45.9	3.7
April	54.5	328.9	27.1	67.6	33.2	17.1	55.3	45.9	3.8
May	54.4	329.5	27.1	68.5	33.3	17.2	55.5	46.0	3.8
June	54.1	330.8	26.6	69.1	33.0	17.3	55.8	46.1	3.7
July	53.4	332.3	25.7	69.6	32.5	17.3	56.0	46.3	3.6
August	52.2	333.2	25.0	70.6	32.4	17.5	56.3	46.5	3.5
September	50.8	332.5	24.8	71.7	32.9	17.7	56.3	46.3	3.5
October	49.6	330.5	25.3	72.8	33.8	18.1	56.2	46.1	3.5
November	48.7	328.2	26.1	73.5	34.9	18.3	56.0	45.7	3.6
December	48.3	326.2	27.1	73.6	35.9	18.4	55.7	45.4	3.8
2015									
January	48.1	324.5	27.9	73.4	36.7	18.4	55.4	45.2	3.9
February	48.4	323.1	28.8	73.3	37.2	18.5	55.2	45.0	4.0
PERSONS									
February 2012	197.6	664.3	64.0	134.1	24.5	16.8	54.8	45.6	4.4
February 2013	182.4	665.6	61.7	131.5	25.3	16.5	54.4	45.4	4.2
2014									
February	168.3	648.1	60.6	131.3	26.5	16.8	52.9	44.0	4.1
March	168.8	646.9	63.1	135.8	27.2	17.3	53.1	43.9	4.3
April	168.8	645.8	65.4	140.6	27.9	17.9	53.4	43.8	4.4
May	168.3	645.0	66.5	144.5	28.3	18.3	53.6	43.8	4.5
June	167.3	644.8	66.2	147.1	28.3	18.6	53.7	43.7	4.5
July	165.5	645.6	64.9	149.1	28.2	18.8	53.9	43.8	4.4
August	163.0	646.6	63.5	150.9	28.0	18.9	54.1	43.9	4.3
September	160.3	646.2	62.7	152.7	28.1	19.1	54.2	43.8	4.3
October	157.9	644.2	63.0	154.6	28.5	19.3	54.2	43.7	4.3
November	156.4	641.3	64.2	156.2	29.1	19.6	54.1	43.5	4.4
December	155.4	638.1	65.6	157.4	29.7	19.8	53.9	43.3	4.4
2015									
January	154.7	634.8	66.8	158.0	30.1	19.9	53.7	43.0	4.5
February	154.8	631.7	68.2	158.9	30.6	20.1	53.6	42.8	4.6

PERSONS AGED 15–19 YEARS, Labour Force Status: **Seasonally Adjusted**

	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		Participation rate	Employment to population ratio	Unemployment to population ratio – looking for full-time work
	Full time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total			
MALES									
February 2012	136.2	321.1	40.1	70.7	22.7	18.0	52.3	42.9	5.4
February 2013	124.1	324.6	38.4	73.0	23.6	18.4	52.8	43.1	5.1
2014									
February	113.5	319.0	34.6	66.0	23.4	17.1	50.9	42.2	4.6
March	110.9	320.6	34.5	69.3	23.7	17.8	51.4	42.3	4.5
April	115.4	315.2	38.5	74.3	25.0	19.1	51.4	41.6	5.1
May	114.8	312.0	41.6	73.8	26.6	19.1	51.0	41.2	5.5
June	113.5	318.9	39.1	79.1	25.6	19.9	52.6	42.1	5.2
July	113.2	312.1	41.5	85.5	26.8	21.5	52.5	41.2	5.5
August	110.8	311.5	37.6	78.2	25.4	20.1	51.5	41.2	5.0
September	107.1	310.9	35.9	76.9	25.1	19.8	51.2	41.1	4.7
October	107.8	313.0	35.4	79.5	24.7	20.2	51.9	41.4	4.7
November	109.0	322.2	40.2	88.3	27.0	21.5	54.3	42.6	5.3
December	107.4	311.5	39.2	82.2	26.7	20.9	52.0	41.2	5.2
2015									
January	106.3	305.8	39.4	86.2	27.1	22.0	51.8	40.4	5.2
February	105.9	306.3	38.5	83.6	26.7	21.4	51.5	40.4	5.1
FEMALES									
February 2012	68.3	337.9	25.2	63.3	26.9	15.8	56.6	47.7	3.6
February 2013	56.2	337.7	25.0	57.5	30.8	14.6	55.5	47.4	3.5
2014									
February	55.2	332.7	25.7	64.2	31.7	16.2	55.4	46.4	3.6
March	54.7	329.1	27.8	66.8	33.7	16.9	55.2	45.9	3.9
April	52.4	322.1	26.9	68.7	34.0	17.6	54.5	44.9	3.8
May	57.0	324.7	29.3	75.3	34.0	18.8	55.8	45.3	4.1
June	50.1	334.9	24.7	60.3	33.0	15.3	55.2	46.7	3.4
July	57.2	335.8	26.6	71.3	31.7	17.5	56.8	46.8	3.7
August	52.6	334.2	25.6	71.5	32.8	17.6	56.6	46.6	3.6
September	51.0	333.7	23.6	69.1	31.6	17.2	56.1	46.5	3.3
October	49.5	327.1	23.7	75.4	32.4	18.7	56.1	45.6	3.3
November	45.0	327.7	25.9	75.7	36.6	18.8	56.2	45.7	3.6
December	48.3	329.4	27.9	71.9	36.6	17.9	55.9	45.9	3.9
2015									
January	50.2	322.5	29.9	73.5	37.3	18.6	55.1	44.9	4.2
February	49.3	322.4	27.9	72.2	36.1	18.3	54.9	44.8	3.9
PERSONS									
February 2012	204.6	659.0	65.3	133.9	24.2	16.9	54.4	45.2	4.5
February 2013	180.3	662.3	63.4	130.5	26.0	16.5	54.1	45.2	4.3
2014									
February	168.6	651.7	60.2	130.2	26.3	16.6	53.1	44.2	4.1
March	165.6	649.8	62.2	136.0	27.3	17.3	53.3	44.0	4.2
April	167.7	637.3	65.4	143.0	28.1	18.3	52.9	43.2	4.4
May	171.8	636.8	70.9	149.0	29.2	19.0	53.3	43.2	4.8
June	163.6	653.8	63.8	139.4	28.1	17.6	53.8	44.4	4.3
July	170.4	647.9	68.1	156.8	28.6	19.5	54.6	44.0	4.6
August	163.4	645.7	63.3	149.8	27.9	18.8	54.0	43.8	4.3
September	158.1	644.6	59.5	146.0	27.3	18.5	53.6	43.7	4.0
October	157.4	640.1	59.1	154.8	27.3	19.5	53.9	43.4	4.0
November	154.0	649.9	66.1	164.0	30.1	20.1	55.2	44.1	4.5
December	155.8	640.8	67.1	154.0	30.1	19.4	53.9	43.5	4.6
2015									
January	156.5	628.3	69.3	159.7	30.7	20.3	53.4	42.6	4.7
February	155.2	628.7	66.3	155.8	29.9	19.9	53.1	42.6	4.5



	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED					UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Full time	Part time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total	Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15–19 years	Looking for f/t work	Total	Participation rate	Unemployment to population ratio – looking for full-time work
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	%
NOT ATTENDING FULL-TIME EDUCATION												
Males												
February 2012	127.3	44.0	171.3	38.1	41.9	213.3	38.8	252.1	23.1	19.7	84.6	15.1
February 2013	113.0	47.7	160.7	37.7	39.2	199.9	36.1	235.9	25.0	19.6	84.7	16.0
February 2014	96.4	41.1	137.5	31.4	36.8	174.2	30.4	204.6	24.6	21.1	85.1	15.3
February 2015	95.2	43.6	138.8	24.4	28.9	167.7	26.2	194.0	20.4	17.2	86.5	12.6
Females												
February 2012	59.1	60.2	119.3	23.1	27.4	146.7	35.7	182.4	28.1	18.7	80.4	12.7
February 2013	47.6	59.2	106.9	23.1	26.7	133.6	34.0	167.6	32.6	20.0	79.7	13.8
February 2014	46.8	52.6	99.4	20.1	23.2	122.6	31.4	154.0	30.1	18.9	79.6	13.1
February 2015	44.3	63.3	107.5	14.6	20.9	128.4	23.8	152.2	24.8	16.3	84.4	9.6
Persons												
February 2012	186.4	104.2	290.6	61.3	69.3	360.0	74.6	434.5	24.7	19.3	82.8	14.1
February 2013	160.7	106.9	267.6	60.8	65.9	333.5	70.0	403.5	27.4	19.8	82.6	15.1
February 2014	143.2	93.7	236.8	51.6	60.0	296.8	61.8	358.6	26.5	20.2	82.8	14.4
February 2015	139.5	106.9	246.4	39.0	49.8	296.1	50.0	346.2	21.8	16.8	85.5	11.3
ATTENDING FULL-TIME EDUCATION												
Males												
February 2012	16.0	135.0	151.0	9.2	43.5	194.5	301.7	496.2	36.4	22.4	39.2	1.8
February 2013	17.5	147.2	164.7	8.2	48.9	213.6	304.0	517.6	31.9	22.9	41.3	1.6
February 2014	18.5	161.3	179.8	11.8	46.4	226.2	326.0	552.2	39.0	20.5	41.0	2.1
February 2015	21.9	167.0	189.0	14.1	55.8	244.7	319.1	563.8	39.1	22.8	43.4	2.5
Females												
February 2012	12.1	206.4	218.5	8.0	47.1	265.5	260.7	526.3	39.7	17.7	50.5	1.5
February 2013	10.9	219.0	229.8	7.8	41.1	270.9	273.3	544.1	41.7	15.2	49.8	1.4
February 2014	11.8	216.5	228.3	12.3	57.3	285.6	276.8	562.4	51.2	20.1	50.8	2.2
February 2015	14.7	213.2	227.9	14.9	55.2	283.1	283.8	566.9	50.3	19.5	49.9	2.6
Persons												
February 2012	28.1	341.3	369.5	17.1	90.6	460.0	562.5	1 022.5	37.8	19.7	45.0	1.7
February 2013	28.4	366.2	394.6	16.0	89.9	484.5	577.2	1 061.7	36.0	18.6	45.6	1.5
February 2014	30.2	377.8	408.0	24.2	103.7	511.8	602.9	1 114.6	44.4	20.3	45.9	2.2
February 2015	36.7	380.2	416.8	29.0	111.0	527.9	602.8	1 130.7	44.2	21.0	46.7	2.6
TOTAL												
Males												
February 2012	143.4	178.9	322.3	47.3	85.4	407.7	340.6	748.3	24.8	21.0	54.5	6.3
February 2013	130.6	194.9	325.4	45.9	88.1	413.5	340.0	753.5	26.0	21.3	54.9	6.1
February 2014	114.9	202.4	317.2	43.2	83.1	400.4	356.4	756.8	27.3	20.8	52.9	5.7
February 2015	117.1	210.6	327.8	38.5	84.7	412.4	345.3	757.7	24.7	20.5	54.4	5.1
Females												
February 2012	71.2	266.6	337.8	31.1	74.4	412.2	296.5	708.7	30.4	18.1	58.2	4.4
February 2013	58.5	278.2	336.7	30.8	67.8	404.5	307.2	711.7	34.5	16.8	56.8	4.3
February 2014	58.6	269.1	327.6	32.5	80.6	408.2	308.2	716.4	35.7	19.7	57.0	4.5
February 2015	59.0	276.4	335.4	29.5	76.1	411.6	307.5	719.1	33.3	18.5	57.2	4.1
Persons												
February 2012	214.5	445.6	660.1	78.4	159.9	820.0	637.0	1 457.0	26.8	19.5	56.3	5.4
February 2013	189.1	473.1	662.1	76.7	155.8	817.9	647.2	1 465.2	28.9	19.0	55.8	5.2
February 2014	173.4	471.5	644.9	75.7	163.7	808.6	664.6	1 473.2	30.4	20.2	54.9	5.1
February 2015	176.2	487.0	663.2	68.0	160.8	824.0	652.8	1 476.8	27.8	19.5	55.8	4.6

	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED		Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15–19 years	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		Participation rate	Unemployment to population ratio – looking for full-time work
	Full time	Part time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total				Looking for f/t work	Total		
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000				'000	'000		
NOT ATTENDING FULL-TIME EDUCATION												
New South Wales	48.8	32.2	81.0	11.0	13.9	94.8	17.2	112.0	18.4	14.6	84.7	9.8
Victoria	22.4	14.8	37.1	*6.5	9.3	46.4	7.3	53.7	*22.6	20.0	86.4	*12.2
Queensland	30.7	33.9	64.6	12.0	15.1	79.7	17.5	97.2	28.0	18.9	82.0	12.3
South Australia	8.5	6.5	14.9	4.1	4.5	19.4	*3.1	22.5	32.8	23.2	86.3	18.3
Western Australia	21.9	15.0	36.9	*2.6	*3.9	40.8	*2.9	43.6	*10.5	*9.5	93.5	*5.8
Tasmania	3.0	2.6	5.6	*1.6	1.9	7.4	*1.0	8.5	*34.5	25.1	87.7	*18.7
Northern Territory	2.7	0.8	3.5	*1.0	*1.1	4.6	1.0	5.5	*26.6	*23.8	82.7	*17.7
Australian Capital Territory	*1.6	*1.2	2.8	*0.2	*0.2	3.0	*0.1	3.1	*12.3	*7.4	96.0	*7.1
Australia	139.5	106.9	246.4	39.0	49.8	296.1	50.0	346.2	21.8	16.8	85.5	11.3
ATTENDING FULL-TIME EDUCATION												
New South Wales	*7.0	107.9	114.9	*6.8	31.8	146.6	209.4	356.0	*49.4	21.7	41.2	*1.9
Victoria	8.1	108.4	116.5	*3.3	30.3	146.8	158.0	304.8	*28.7	20.6	48.2	*1.1
Queensland	11.5	83.0	94.4	11.9	25.7	120.2	93.2	213.4	50.8	21.4	56.3	5.6
South Australia	*2.1	25.5	27.6	*2.4	8.2	35.9	46.1	82.0	*53.0	23.0	43.8	*2.9
Western Australia	5.4	37.8	43.1	*3.1	10.0	53.1	65.6	118.7	*36.3	18.7	44.7	*2.6
Tasmania	*0.9	7.6	8.6	*1.0	2.9	11.5	13.6	25.1	*51.2	25.2	45.7	*4.0
Northern Territory	0.8	3.4	4.3	*0.2	*0.4	4.7	6.1	10.8	*20.2	*9.2	43.4	*2.0
Australian Capital Territory	*0.8	6.6	7.4	*0.4	*1.8	9.2	10.7	19.8	*33.6	*19.2	46.2	*2.0
Australia	36.7	380.2	416.8	29.0	111.0	527.9	602.8	1 130.7	44.2	21.0	46.7	2.6
TOTAL												
New South Wales	55.8	140.0	195.8	17.8	45.6	241.4	226.6	468.0	24.2	18.9	51.6	3.8
Victoria	30.5	123.2	153.7	9.8	39.5	193.2	165.3	358.5	24.3	20.5	53.9	2.7
Queensland	42.2	116.9	159.1	23.8	40.8	199.9	110.7	310.6	36.1	20.4	64.4	7.7
South Australia	10.6	32.0	42.6	6.5	12.7	55.3	49.2	104.5	38.1	23.0	52.9	6.3
Western Australia	27.2	52.8	80.0	*5.6	13.8	93.9	68.5	162.4	*17.1	14.7	57.8	*3.5
Tasmania	3.9	10.2	14.1	2.6	4.8	18.9	14.7	33.5	39.5	25.2	56.3	7.7
Northern Territory	3.5	4.2	7.7	*1.2	1.5	9.2	7.1	16.3	*25.2	16.4	56.7	*7.3
Australian Capital Territory	2.4	7.8	10.2	*0.6	*2.0	12.2	10.8	23.0	*20.8	*16.3	52.9	*2.7
Australia	176.2	487.0	663.2	68.0	160.8	824.0	652.8	1 476.8	27.8	19.5	55.8	4.6

\* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

LABOUR FORCE STATUS IN FEBRUARY 2015

<i>Labour force status in January 2015</i>	<i>Employed Full time</i>	<i>Employed Part time</i>	<i>Employed Total</i>	<i>Unemployed</i>	<i>Labour Force</i>	<i>Not in Labour Force</i>	<i>Matched Civilian Population</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
<b>MALES</b>							
Employed Full time	3 948.7	117.3	4 066.1	31.1	4 097.2	35.0	4 132.2
Employed Part time	143.2	629.1	772.4	17.9	790.2	49.4	839.6
Employed Total	4 091.9	746.5	4 838.4	49.0	4 887.4	84.4	4 971.7
Unemployed Total	39.6	41.6	81.2	215.3	296.5	66.1	362.6
Labour Force	4 131.5	788.0	4 919.6	264.3	5 183.9	150.5	5 334.4
Not in Labour Force	61.0	57.3	118.3	81.6	199.9	1 890.8	2 090.8
Matched Civilian Population	4 192.6	845.3	5 037.9	345.9	5 383.8	2 041.3	7 425.1
<b>FEMALES</b>							
Employed Full time	2 025.8	168.8	2 194.6	7.6	2 202.2	33.1	2 235.3
Employed Part time	195.4	1 630.8	1 826.2	23.2	1 849.4	74.8	1 924.3
Employed Total	2 221.2	1 799.6	4 020.8	30.8	4 051.6	107.9	4 159.5
Unemployed Total	22.5	44.4	66.8	156.7	223.5	62.7	286.2
Labour Force	2 243.7	1 844.0	4 087.7	187.4	4 275.1	170.6	4 445.7
Not in Labour Force	42.9	130.9	173.9	119.5	293.3	2 813.2	3 106.6
Matched Civilian Population	2 286.6	1 974.9	4 261.5	306.9	4 568.4	2 983.8	7 552.3
<b>PERSONS</b>							
Employed Full time	5 974.5	286.2	6 260.7	38.7	6 299.4	68.1	6 367.5
Employed Part time	338.6	2 259.9	2 598.6	41.1	2 639.6	124.2	2 763.8
Employed Total	6 313.2	2 546.1	8 859.3	79.7	8 939.0	192.3	9 131.3
Unemployed Total	62.1	85.9	148.0	372.0	520.0	128.8	648.8
Labour Force	6 375.2	2 632.0	9 007.2	451.7	9 459.0	321.1	9 780.1
Not in Labour Force	104.0	188.2	292.2	201.1	493.3	4 704.1	5 197.3
Matched Civilian Population	6 479.2	2 820.2	9 299.4	652.8	9 952.2	5 025.2	14 977.4

(a) Gross flows figures do not match published labour force estimates. Refer to gross flows in Glossary.

	TREND			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED		
	<i>Full time workers</i>	<i>Part time workers</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Full time workers</i>	<i>Part time workers</i>	<i>Total</i>
	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions
MALES						
February 2012	910.2	68.6	978.8	907.2	69.2	976.4
February 2013	898.8	69.9	968.7	897.1	72.9	970.0
2014						
February	902.7	76.0	978.7	899.1	75.8	974.9
March	904.0	75.9	979.9	902.7	77.8	980.5
April	904.7	75.5	980.2	903.1	75.6	978.6
May	904.7	75.2	979.8	901.5	74.1	975.6
June	904.2	75.0	979.2	913.0	75.4	988.3
July	903.7	74.9	978.6	903.2	73.1	976.3
August	902.8	75.1	977.9	899.6	76.1	975.6
September	901.7	75.5	977.2	900.0	76.1	976.2
October	901.4	75.9	977.3	901.2	76.3	977.4
November	901.9	76.1	978.0	904.3	75.8	980.1
December	903.0	76.2	979.2	901.7	75.4	977.0
2015						
January	904.4	76.4	980.8	901.0	77.1	978.1
February	905.7	76.4	982.1	910.4	76.6	986.9
FEMALES						
February 2012	449.0	167.3	616.3	449.7	167.3	617.0
February 2013	443.9	168.5	612.4	443.5	168.6	612.1
2014						
February	447.2	173.3	620.5	447.1	169.9	616.9
March	448.0	173.3	621.3	449.0	173.3	622.3
April	448.7	173.6	622.3	447.9	173.9	621.8
May	449.4	174.0	623.4	446.9	174.2	621.1
June	449.8	174.6	624.4	452.3	175.6	628.0
July	449.8	175.2	625.0	450.7	173.9	624.7
August	448.9	175.9	624.8	449.5	175.7	625.1
September	447.6	176.6	624.2	446.5	177.5	624.1
October	446.5	177.4	623.9	448.9	176.5	625.3
November	446.1	178.3	624.4	443.7	179.0	622.7
December	446.5	179.1	625.5	441.6	178.3	619.9
2015						
January	447.4	179.8	627.2	449.1	180.6	629.7
February	448.6	180.3	628.9	453.5	180.4	633.8
PERSONS						
February 2012	1 359.2	235.9	1 595.1	1 357.0	236.5	1 593.4
February 2013	1 342.7	238.4	1 581.1	1 340.6	241.5	1 582.1
2014						
February	1 349.9	249.3	1 599.3	1 346.2	245.6	1 591.8
March	1 352.1	249.2	1 601.3	1 351.6	251.1	1 602.8
April	1 353.4	249.1	1 602.5	1 350.9	249.5	1 600.4
May	1 354.0	249.2	1 603.2	1 348.4	248.3	1 596.7
June	1 354.1	249.5	1 603.6	1 365.3	251.0	1 616.3
July	1 353.4	250.1	1 603.6	1 353.9	247.1	1 600.9
August	1 351.7	251.0	1 602.7	1 349.0	251.7	1 600.8
September	1 349.3	252.1	1 601.4	1 346.6	253.7	1 600.2
October	1 347.9	253.3	1 601.2	1 350.1	252.7	1 602.8
November	1 348.0	254.3	1 602.3	1 348.0	254.8	1 602.8
December	1 349.5	255.3	1 604.8	1 343.2	253.6	1 596.9
2015						
January	1 351.7	256.2	1 607.9	1 350.1	257.7	1 607.8
February	1 354.3	256.8	1 611.0	1 363.9	256.9	1 620.8

## HOURS WORKED

<i>New South Wales</i>	<i>Victoria</i>	<i>Queensland</i>	<i>South Australia</i>	<i>Western Australia</i>	<i>Tasmania</i>	<i>Northern Territory</i>	<i>Australian Capital Territory</i>	<i>Australia</i>
millions	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

February 2012	494.8	387.8	330.8	110.4	189.5	31.3	np	np	1 593.4
February 2013	498.7	386.1	325.0	109.1	186.1	30.3	np	np	1 582.1
2014									
February	497.4	387.6	328.2	108.5	191.4	30.3	np	np	1 591.8
March	498.7	393.2	329.1	109.8	192.6	30.8	np	np	1 602.8
April	499.0	391.1	329.9	109.5	191.3	30.8	np	np	1 600.4
May	497.6	390.9	331.0	109.1	187.9	30.8	np	np	1 596.7
June	505.7	394.9	331.0	111.1	193.6	31.1	np	np	1 616.3
July	500.1	390.5	327.3	110.1	193.6	31.0	np	np	1 600.9
August	502.2	387.0	328.5	111.3	193.1	30.9	np	np	1 600.8
September	499.6	391.9	325.6	110.1	193.6	31.5	np	np	1 600.2
October	502.5	388.5	326.5	110.5	195.6	31.5	np	np	1 602.8
November	503.0	393.4	321.0	110.2	195.9	31.5	np	np	1 602.8
December	497.3	392.5	325.7	107.0	195.5	31.4	np	np	1 596.9
2015									
January	497.9	391.5	337.2	108.2	193.6	31.4	np	np	1 607.8
February	502.7	398.9	334.5	109.5	195.0	31.8	np	np	1 620.8

## TREND

February 2012	496.3	389.2	330.8	111.0	188.4	31.3	19.0	29.0	1 595.1
February 2013	497.7	385.4	322.8	109.1	188.4	30.3	18.9	28.5	1 581.1
2014									
February	497.8	391.3	331.0	109.4	190.6	30.6	20.3	28.2	1 599.3
March	498.7	391.5	330.9	109.6	191.0	30.7	20.4	28.4	1 601.3
April	499.6	391.7	330.5	109.7	191.3	30.8	20.4	28.5	1 602.5
May	500.3	391.6	330.0	109.9	191.5	30.9	20.3	28.5	1 603.2
June	501.0	391.3	329.4	110.2	192.0	30.9	20.2	28.5	1 603.6
July	501.6	390.8	328.4	110.6	192.7	31.1	20.0	28.5	1 603.6
August	501.8	390.3	327.0	110.6	193.6	31.2	19.8	28.4	1 602.7
September	501.5	390.1	325.8	110.4	194.4	31.3	19.7	28.2	1 601.4
October	501.0	390.6	325.7	109.9	194.8	31.4	19.7	28.1	1 601.2
November	500.5	391.5	326.7	109.4	195.0	31.5	19.8	28.0	1 602.3
December	500.2	392.8	328.5	108.9	195.0	31.5	19.9	27.9	1 604.8
2015									
January	500.1	394.1	330.6	108.6	195.0	31.6	20.1	27.9	1 607.9
February	500.0	395.4	332.7	108.3	195.0	31.6	20.2	27.9	1 611.0

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

	TREND			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			ORIGINAL		
	<i>Under-employed workers</i>	<i>Under-employment rate</i>	<i>Labour force under-utilisation rate</i>	<i>Under-employed workers</i>	<i>Under-employment rate</i>	<i>Labour force under-utilisation rate</i>	<i>Under-employed workers</i>	<i>Under-employment rate</i>	<i>Labour force under-utilisation rate</i>
	'000	%	%	'000	%	%	'000	%	%
MALES									
February 2011	342.7	5.4	10.1	326.6	5.1	9.9	335.7	5.2	10.5
February 2012	356.3	5.5	10.6	370.6	5.8	10.8	377.8	5.8	11.4
February 2013	359.1	5.5	11.0	355.6	5.4	10.9	362.0	5.5	11.5
2013									
August	381.8	5.8	11.6	380.7	5.8	11.6	383.7	5.9	11.6
November	386.7	5.9	11.7	385.2	5.8	11.8	375.5	5.7	11.3
2014									
February	391.9	5.9	11.8	398.8	6.0	11.8	383.3	5.7	12.2
May	406.0	6.1	12.0	391.5	5.9	11.7	387.6	5.8	11.5
August	425.4	6.4	12.4	432.6	6.5	12.5	445.7	6.7	12.7
November	443.0	6.6	12.9	449.1	6.7	13.1	450.8	6.7	12.7
2015									
February	454.6	6.8	13.3	448.8	6.7	13.1	442.7	6.5	13.0
FEMALES									
February 2011	479.8	9.0	14.4	489.5	9.2	14.4	508.6	9.5	15.4
February 2012	511.2	9.4	14.8	503.8	9.3	14.7	519.8	9.5	15.7
February 2013	514.5	9.3	14.7	512.1	9.2	14.7	523.2	9.4	15.6
2013									
August	538.5	9.7	15.4	542.2	9.8	15.6	534.1	9.7	15.2
November	548.1	9.8	15.7	548.3	9.8	15.6	548.6	9.9	15.1
2014									
February	555.9	9.9	15.9	555.1	9.9	15.9	545.4	9.7	16.9
May	570.7	10.1	16.2	567.9	10.1	16.1	551.1	9.7	15.8
August	590.6	10.4	16.6	587.4	10.4	16.5	602.9	10.6	16.5
November	607.9	10.7	17.0	619.4	10.9	17.2	630.3	11.2	16.9
2015									
February	618.3	10.9	17.3	612.2	10.8	17.1	607.2	10.5	17.3
PERSONS									
February 2011	822.5	7.0	12.1	816.1	7.0	11.9	844.3	7.1	12.8
February 2012	867.5	7.3	12.5	874.4	7.4	12.6	897.5	7.5	13.4
February 2013	873.6	7.2	12.7	867.7	7.2	12.6	885.2	7.3	13.4
2013									
August	920.3	7.6	13.4	922.8	7.6	13.5	917.8	7.6	13.3
November	934.9	7.7	13.6	933.5	7.7	13.5	924.1	7.6	13.1
2014									
February	947.8	7.8	13.7	953.9	7.8	13.7	928.7	7.5	14.3
May	976.7	8.0	13.9	959.4	7.8	13.8	938.7	7.6	13.5
August	1 016.0	8.2	14.4	1 020.1	8.3	14.4	1 048.6	8.5	14.5
November	1 050.9	8.5	14.8	1 068.6	8.6	15.0	1 081.1	8.8	14.6
2015									
February	1 072.8	8.7	15.1	1 060.9	8.6	14.9	1 049.9	8.3	15.0

	TREND			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			ORIGINAL		
	<i>Under-employed workers</i>	<i>Under-employment rate</i>	<i>Labour force under-utilisation rate</i>	<i>Under-employed workers</i>	<i>Under-employment rate</i>	<i>Labour force under-utilisation rate</i>	<i>Under-employed workers</i>	<i>Under-employment rate</i>	<i>Labour force under-utilisation rate</i>
	'000	%	%	'000	%	%	'000	%	%
MALES									
New South Wales	132.9	6.3	12.8	131.6	6.2	12.7	129.9	6.1	12.4
Victoria	140.6	8.3	15.2	136.3	8.1	14.9	114.6	6.7	12.7
Queensland	91.4	6.9	14.0	90.8	6.8	13.8	101.9	7.5	15.4
South Australia	31.5	6.9	13.0	30.1	6.6	12.8	30.1	6.5	13.4
Western Australia	39.9	4.9	10.0	40.3	4.9	10.0	45.3	5.4	11.7
Tasmania	11.6	8.3	16.0	11.5	8.2	15.9	10.5	7.5	14.9
Northern Territory	1.8	2.4	7.6	1.7	2.2	7.1	2.4	3.1	8.1
Australian Capital Territory	6.6	5.9	10.5	6.7	6.0	10.3	8.2	7.2	11.6
<b>Australia</b>	<b>454.6</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>448.8</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>442.7</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>13.0</b>
FEMALES									
New South Wales	185.1	10.5	16.7	186.0	10.6	16.7	176.0	9.8	16.8
Victoria	158.7	11.2	17.8	158.6	11.1	17.7	166.6	11.4	18.0
Queensland	132.4	11.5	18.3	131.9	11.4	18.2	126.2	10.7	17.5
South Australia	42.5	10.7	18.1	42.0	10.6	18.0	50.2	12.5	20.0
Western Australia	69.3	10.8	15.6	68.2	10.7	15.6	62.1	9.6	16.1
Tasmania	16.0	13.3	19.4	15.8	13.1	19.4	15.3	12.9	19.0
Northern Territory	3.3	5.4	8.9	3.2	5.1	8.6	3.8	5.8	10.1
Australian Capital Territory	7.8	7.2	11.7	7.6	7.0	11.6	6.9	6.4	13.0
<b>Australia</b>	<b>618.3</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>612.2</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>607.2</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>17.3</b>
PERSONS									
New South Wales	318.0	8.2	14.6	317.5	8.2	14.5	305.9	7.8	14.4
Victoria	299.3	9.6	16.4	294.9	9.5	16.2	281.2	8.9	15.1
Queensland	223.8	9.0	16.0	222.7	8.9	15.9	228.1	9.0	16.4
South Australia	74.0	8.6	15.4	72.1	8.4	15.2	80.3	9.3	16.5
Western Australia	109.3	7.5	12.5	108.5	7.5	12.5	107.4	7.2	13.6
Tasmania	27.6	10.6	17.6	27.4	10.5	17.5	25.8	9.9	16.8
Northern Territory	5.2	3.7	8.2	4.9	3.5	7.8	6.1	4.4	9.0
Australian Capital Territory	14.4	6.5	11.1	14.3	6.5	10.9	15.0	6.8	12.3
<b>Australia</b>	<b>1 072.8</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>1 060.9</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>1 049.9</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>15.0</b>

## WHAT IF...? REVISIONS TO TREND ESTIMATES

### EFFECT OF NEW SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES ON TREND ESTIMATES

#### TREND REVISIONS

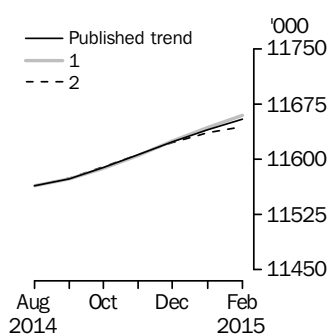
Each time new seasonally adjusted estimates become available, trend estimates are revised. This revision is a combined result of the concurrent seasonal adjustment process and the application of surrogates of the Henderson average to the seasonally adjusted series (see paragraphs 28 to 36 of the Explanatory Notes).

The examples in the tables below show two illustrative scenarios and the consequent revisions to previous trend estimates of employment and the unemployment rate. The revisions in the scenarios are due to the use of surrogates of the Henderson average, as the impact of revision of seasonally adjusted estimates can not be estimated in advance.

- (1) The March seasonally adjusted estimate is *higher* than the February estimate by:  
0.24% for employment  
2.20% for the unemployment rate
- (2) The March seasonally adjusted estimate is *lower* than the February estimate by:  
0.24% for employment  
2.20% for the unemployment rate

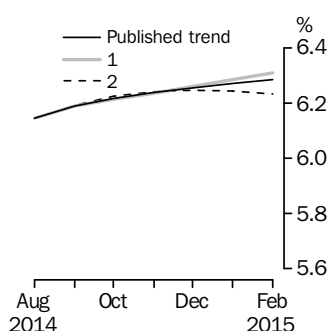
The percentage changes of 0.24% and 2.20% represent the average absolute monthly percentage changes in employment and the unemployment rate respectively. Estimates in the graphs have been calculated using unrounded estimates, and may be different from, but more accurate than, rounded estimates depicted in the corresponding table.

#### EMPLOYMENT



		WHAT IF NEXT MONTH'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATE IS:	
		(1) 11 679.2 i.e. rises by 0.24%	(2) 11 625.6 i.e. falls by 0.24%
		<i>Trend as published</i>	
<b>2014</b>			
	November	11 606.1	11 605.7
	December	11 623.9	11 625.0
<b>2015</b>			
	January	11 640.0	11 643.6
	February	11 654.0	11 659.6

#### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



		WHAT IF NEXT MONTH'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATE IS:	
		(1) 6.4 i.e. rises by 2.20%	(2) 6.1 i.e. falls by 2.20%
		<i>Trend as published</i>	
<b>2014</b>			
	November	6.2	6.2
	December	6.3	6.3
<b>2015</b>			
	January	6.3	6.2
	February	6.3	6.2



## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication contains estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the Labour Force Survey component of the Monthly Population Survey. The full time series for estimates from this publication are also available electronically. More detailed estimates are released one week after this publication in various electronic formats – see *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed – Electronic Delivery* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

### CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

**2** The conceptual framework used in Australia's Labour Force Survey aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of International Conferences of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling the estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001) which is available on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

### LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

**3** The Labour Force Survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (currently approximately 26,000 houses, flats, etc.) and a list sample of non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers approximately 0.32% of the civilian population of Australia aged 15 years and over.

**4** Information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by specially trained interviewers using computer-assisted interviewing, or self-completion online.

**5** Households selected for the Labour Force Survey are interviewed each month for eight months, with one-eighth of the sample being replaced each month. The first interview is generally conducted face-to-face. Subsequent interviews are conducted by telephone (if acceptable to the respondent).

**6** From December 2012 to April 2013, the ABS conducted a trial of online electronic data collection. Respondents in one rotation group (i.e. one-eighth of the survey sample) were offered the option of self completing their labour force survey questionnaire online instead of via a face-to-face or telephone interview. From May 2013, the ABS expanded the offer of online electronic collection to 50% of each new incoming rotation group. For more information see the article in the April 2013 issue of this publication. From September 2013, online electronic collection has been offered to 100% of private dwellings in each incoming rotation group. From April 2014, 100% of private dwellings are being offered online electronic collection.

**7** The interviews are generally conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Sunday between the 5th and 11th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week before the interview (i.e. the reference week). Each year, to deal with operational difficulties involved with collecting and processing the Labour Force Survey around the Christmas and New Year holiday period, interviews for December start four weeks after November interviews start (i.e. between the 3rd and 9th December), and January interviews start five weeks after December interviews start. As a result, January interviewing may commence as early as the 7th or as late as the 13th, depending on the year. Occasionally, circumstances that present significant operational difficulties for survey collection can result in a change to the normal pattern for the start of interviewing.

**8** Estimates from the Labour Force Survey are usually published first in this publication 32 days after the commencement of interviews for that month, with the exception of estimates for each December which are usually published 39 days after the commencement of interviews.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### SCOPE OF SURVEY

**9** The Labour Force Survey includes all persons aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

### COVERAGE

**10** In the Labour Force Survey, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection. The coverage rules are necessarily a balance between theoretical and operational considerations. Nevertheless, the chance of a person being enumerated at two separate dwellings in the survey is considered to be negligible.

### POPULATION BENCHMARKS

**11** The Labour Force Survey estimates are calculated in such a way as to add to independent estimates of the civilian population aged 15 years and over (population benchmarks). These population benchmarks are based on the most recently released estimates of Final, Revised and Preliminary quarterly Estimated Resident Population (ERP). For information on the methodology used to produce the ERP see *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0). Since the most recently released ERP estimates lag the current time period for Labour Force estimates by nine months, the Labour Force population benchmarks are created by projecting forward three quarters past the most recently released quarterly ERP estimates. The projection is based on the historical pattern of each population component – births, deaths, interstate migration and net overseas migration (NOM). Projected estimates of NOM are supplemented with other data sources to better forecast population changes in the short-term. The main data source is the forecasts published by the Department of Immigration & Border Protection in the publication *The Outlook for Net Overseas Migration*.

**12** Commencing in March 2010, the ERP series has been revised twice-yearly, in the March and September quarter issues of *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0). This biannual revision cycle incorporates more up to date information available for NOM. This updated information is included in the population benchmarks used in creating the Labour Force estimates when they are rebenchmarked.

**13** Every five years, the ERP series are revised to incorporate additional information available from the latest Census of Population and Housing (Census). Labour Force Survey population benchmarks, and the estimates, are revised following this five-yearly revision in the ERP. The process of incorporating the revised population benchmarks is referred to as 'rebasings'. From the January 2014 issue of this publication, labour force estimates have been compiled using population benchmarks based on the results of the 2011 Census. Revisions were made to historical Labour Force estimates from June 2006 to December 2013. In addition, estimates from July 1991 to May 2006 were revised to reflect population benchmarks based on ERP revised following the 2011 Census. The next rebasing based on the Census will be following the release of the 2016 Census-based ERP estimates, which will incorporate revisions back five years. For more information on revised ERP estimates, refer to the June 2012 issue of *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0) released in December 2012.

**14** In between Censuses, the ABS revises the Labour Force population benchmarks using the latest ERP according to the paragraphs above. These were introduced in the July 2010, November 2012 and April 2013 issues. The revisions planned for the October 2013, April 2014 and November 2014 issues were not implemented (see *What's New in the Labour Force* in the September 2013 issue and *Changes in this Issue* in the October 2014 issue of this publication). From the February 2015 issue, rebenchmarking will be undertaken quarterly in the February, May, August and November issues. For more information, refer to the article *Rebenchmarking of Labour Force Series* in the February 2015 issue of this publication.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### ESTIMATION METHOD

**15** The estimation method used in the Labour Force Survey is Composite Estimation, which was introduced in May 2007. In January 2014 composite estimation was applied to all estimates from July 1991 as part of the 2011 Census rebenchmarking. Composite Estimation combines data collected in the previous six months with current month's data to produce the current month's estimates, thereby exploiting the high correlation between overlapping samples across months in the Labour Force Survey. The Composite Estimator combines the previous and current months' data by applying different factors according to length of time in the survey. After these factors are applied, the seven months of data are weighted to align with current month population benchmarks. For details see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007* (cat. no. 6292.0).

### COMPARABILITY OF SERIES

**16** From April 1986, the definition of employed persons was changed to include persons who worked without pay between 1 and 14 hours per week in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers). For further information, see paragraphs 22 and 23 of the Explanatory Notes in the February 2003 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0).

**17** The ABS introduced telephone interviewing into the Labour Force Survey in August 1996. Implementation was phased in for each new sample group from August 1996 to February 1997. During the period of implementation, the new method produced different estimates than would have been obtained under the old methodology. The effect dissipated over the final months of implementation and was no longer discernible from February 1997. The estimates for February 1997 and onwards are directly comparable to estimates for periods prior to August 1996. For further details, see the feature article in the June 1997 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0).

**18** From April 2001 the Labour Force Survey was conducted using a redesigned questionnaire containing additional data items and some minor definitional changes. The definition of unemployed persons was changed to include all persons who were waiting to start work and were available to start in the reference week. This change was introduced in February 2004, when historical unit record data were revised from April 2001 to January 2004. This revision created a small trend break at April 2001 in unemployed persons and unemployment rate series. For further details, see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2003* (cat. no. 6292.0), released in December 2003. From July 2014 the Labour Force Survey questionnaire was further redesigned and definitional changes made to active job search steps and duration of job search. For further details, see the Glossary and *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, June 2014* (cat. no. 6292.0), released in October 2014.

**19** Core labour force series were revised in April 2001 for the period April 1986 to March 2001 for the remaining definitional changes introduced with the redesigned questionnaire, to reduce the impact of the changes on labour force series. For further details, see *Information Paper: Implementing the Redesigned Labour Force Survey Questionnaire* (cat. no. 6295.0) and the 2004 issue of *Information Paper: Questionnaires Used in the Labour Force Survey* (cat. no. 6232.0).

**20** In May 2007, an improved method of estimation, known as composite estimation, was introduced into the Labour Force Survey. In introducing this change, the ABS revised unit record data from April 2001 to April 2007 based on the new estimation method. No change was identified in the trend breaks in the unemployed persons and unemployment rate series which arose with the introduction of a redesigned survey form in April 2001 (as noted above in paragraph 18). In January 2014 composite estimation was applied to all estimates from July 1991 as part of the 2011 Census rebenchmarking.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### COMPARABILITY OF SERIES *continued*

For further details, see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007* (cat. no. 6292.0).

**21** As one of a range of ABS savings initiatives for the 2008–09 financial year, there was a 24% reduction in the LFS sample size for the period July 2008 to August 2009, relative to the June 2008 sample size. The sample reduction was reversed from September 2009 to December 2009, with December 2009 estimates being the first produced under the fully reinstated sample.

### LABOUR FORCE SURVEY SAMPLE

**22** The current Labour Force Survey sample has been selected using information collected in the 2011 Census of Population and Housing.

**23** The sample was introduced over four months – May 2013 to August 2013. Two rotation groups (i.e. one-quarter of the survey sample) were introduced each month. During the sample phase-in, the increased sample rotation had an impact on the quality of estimates. Movement standard errors increased by approximately 10%, representing, for example, an increase on the standard error on the Australian monthly change in employment for May 2013 from 27,000 to approximately 29,700.

**24** Due to the use of composite estimation, there was a marginal impact on the quality of level estimates. Gross Flows analysis were impacted by the sample phase-in with between 60% to 70% of the sample available for matching between the current and previous months instead of the usual 80%. After full transition to the new sample, the quality of level and movement estimates is at the level designed for under the 2011 sample design and are of similar quality as the 2006 sample design. For further details, see *Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design* (cat. no. 6269.0) released on 30 May 2013.

### RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

**25** Two types of error are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey: sampling error and non-sampling error.

**26** Sampling error occurs because a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all dwellings in the survey is given by the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Standard errors of key estimates for the latest month and of movements since the previous month of these estimates are shown in the standard errors section of this publication. Standard errors for other estimates and other movements may be calculated by using the spreadsheet contained in *Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube* (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001) which is available free of charge on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

**27** Non-sampling error arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the data. Every effort is made to minimise reporting error by the careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient data processing procedures. Non-sampling error also arises because information cannot be obtained from all persons selected in the survey. The Labour Force Survey receives a high level of co-operation from individuals in selected dwellings, with the average response rate over the last year being 94%. See Glossary for definition of response rate.

### SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION

**28** Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. This means that month-to-month movements of the seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION *continued*

**29** The Labour Force Survey uses the concurrent seasonal adjustment method to derive seasonal factors. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses data up to the current month to estimate seasonal factors for the current and all previous months. This process can result in revisions each month to estimates for earlier periods. However, in most instances, the only noticeable revisions will be to the seasonally adjusted estimates for the previous month and one year prior to the current month. From the December 2013 estimates onwards the effects of supplementary surveys are removed prior to the calculation of seasonal factors. For further details refer to the October and December 2014 issues of this publication.

**30** The revision properties of the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates can be improved by the use of Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) modelling. ARIMA modelling relies on the characteristics of the series being analysed to project future period data. The projected values are temporary, intermediate values, that are only used internally to improve the estimation of the seasonal factors. The projected data do not affect the original estimates and are discarded at the end of the seasonal adjustment process. The Labour Force Survey uses an ARIMA model for the majority of the individual time series. The ARIMA model is assessed as part of the annual reanalysis. For further details, see the feature article in the October 2004 issue of *Australian Economic Indicators* (cat. no. 1350.0).

**31** Seasonal adjustment is able to remove the effect of events which occur at the same time in the survey every year. However, there are some events, like holidays, which are not always at the same time in the survey cycle or which are not at the same time across Australia. The effects of these types of events on Labour Force Survey estimates cannot in all cases be removed, because the pattern of their effects cannot be determined. However, two events for which adjustment is made in the seasonally adjusted series are the January interview start date and the timing of Easter. For further details, see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics* (cat. no. 6292.0) released in December 2003.

**32** While seasonal factors for the complete time series are estimated each month, they will continue to be reviewed annually at a more detailed level to take into account each additional year's original data. This annual review will not normally result in significant changes to published estimates. The review is usually conducted in February each year with the results released in the February issue of this publication. The 2015 annual review will be introduced with the March 2015 issue.

**33** The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series to produce 'trend' series reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted series. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to all months except the last six. The last six monthly trend estimates are obtained by applying surrogates of the Henderson average to the seasonally adjusted series. Trend estimates are used to analyse the underlying behaviour of a series over time.

**34** While this smoothing technique enables estimates to be produced for the latest month, it does result in revisions in addition to those caused by the revision of seasonally adjusted estimates. Generally, revisions due to the use of surrogates of the Henderson average become smaller, and after three months have a negligible impact on the series.

**35** Trend estimates are published for the Northern Territory in table 10 and for the Australian Capital Territory in table 11. Unadjusted series for the two Territories have shown, historically, a high degree of variability, which can lead to considerable revisions to the seasonally adjusted estimates each month when seasonal factors are estimated. For this reason, seasonally adjusted estimates are not currently published for the two Territories. In addition, caution should be exercised in the interpretation of trend

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION *continued*

estimates for the two Territories, particularly for the three most recent months, where revisions may be relatively large.

**36** For further information, see *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series – Monitoring Trends* (cat. no. 1349.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on (02) 6252 6345 or email [time.series.analysis@abs.gov.au](mailto:time.series.analysis@abs.gov.au).

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**37** Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

■ *Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide* (cat.no. 6103.0).

This publication is a reference guide for users of Labour Force Survey data standard products.

■ *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0). This publication presents key indicators of the labour market, articles on a range of labour market issues, and information about the latest developments in the labour statistics program. For further information about this publication, please contact Labour Market Statistics on (02) 6252 7206.

**38** ABS information about the labour market can be found on the Topics @ a Glance page on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

**39** Information about current publications and other products released by the ABS is available from the statistics page on the ABS website. The ABS also issues a daily release advice on the website, Upcoming Product Releases, which details products to be released in the week ahead.

### DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

**40** As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available. Inquiries should be made to the Labour Force contact officer on (02) 6252 6525, email [labourforce@abs.gov.au](mailto:labourforce@abs.gov.au) or to any ABS office.

### EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

**41** Estimates have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Estimates of movement shown in this publication are obtained by taking the difference of unrounded estimates. The movement estimate is then rounded. Where a discrepancy occurs between the reported movement and the difference of the rounded estimates, the reported movement will be more accurate.

### SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

#### **42** SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Definition</i>
'000	thousands
%	percentage
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
CAI	computer assisted interviewing
cat. no.	catalogue number
ERP	estimated resident population
f/t	full time
LFS	Labour Force Survey
p/t	part time
pts	percentage points
Seas adj.	seasonally adjusted
TAFE	Technical and Further Education

## STANDARD ERRORS

### STANDARD ERRORS

The estimates in this publication are based on information gained from the occupants of a sample survey of dwellings. Because the entire population is not surveyed, the published original, seasonally adjusted and trend estimates are subject to sampling error. The most common way of quantifying such sampling error is to calculate the standard error for the published estimate or statistic. For more information, see paragraphs 25 to 27 of the Explanatory Notes.

### LEVEL ESTIMATES

To illustrate, let us say the published level estimate for employed persons aged 15–19 years is 700,000 and the associated standard error is 9,000. The standard error is then used to interpret the level estimate of 700,000. For instance, the standard error of 9,000 indicates that:

- There are approximately two chances in three that the real value falls within the range 691,000 to 709,000 ( $700,000 \pm 9,000$ )
- There are approximately nineteen chances in twenty that the real value falls within the range 682,000 to 718,000 ( $700,000 \pm 18,000$ ).

The real value in this case is the result we would obtain if we could enumerate the total population.

The following table shows the standard errors for this month's level estimates.

										AUSTRALIA		
										Males	Females	Persons

## STANDARD ERRORS *continued*

### MOVEMENT ESTIMATES

The following example illustrates how to use the standard error to interpret a movement estimate. Let us say that one month the published level estimate for females employed part-time in Australia is 1,890,000; the next month the published level estimate is 1,900,000 and the associated standard error for the movement estimate is 11,900. The standard error is then used to interpret the published movement estimate of 10,000. For instance, the standard error of 11,900 indicates that:

- There are approximately two chances in three that the real movement between the two months falls within the range – 1,900 to 21,900 (10,000 + or – 11,900)
- There are approximately nineteen chances in twenty that the real movement falls within the range – 13,800 to 33,800 (10,000 + or – 23,800).

The following table shows the standard errors for this month's movement estimates.

										AUSTRALIA		
										Males	Females	Persons
<b>Aged 15 years and over</b>												
Employed												
Full time	'000	14.9	12.1	9.3	3.9	6.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	18.6	13.6	23.6
Part time	'000	9.5	8.4	5.8	2.8	4.3	1.3	0.8	1.1	8.5	12.6	15.1
Total	'000	17.9	14.9	12.7	5.5	8.8	2.2	2.0	2.1	20.6	18.8	29.0
Unemployed												
Looking for f/t work	'000	10.3	8.4	8.5	3.7	5.2	1.2	0.8	1.3	12.9	10.4	16.8
Looking for p/t work	'000	6.6	5.9	4.8	2.1	3.4	0.8	0.4	1.0	6.8	8.5	10.9
Total	'000	12.3	10.3	9.9	4.3	6.3	1.4	0.9	1.4	14.8	13.6	20.2
Labour force	'000	18.6	15.5	13.7	5.9	9.3	2.3	2.1	2.2	21.3	19.5	30.1
Not in labour force	'000	18.3	15.0	13.8	5.8	8.7	2.2	2.1	2.3	17.9	22.2	29.6
Unemployment rate												
Looking for f/t work	pts	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.2
Looking for p/t work	pts	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.5	1.4	0.6	0.3	0.3
Total	pts	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2
Participation rate	pts	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.1	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2
<b>Aged 15–19 years</b>												
Employed												
Full time	'000	2.6	1.9	1.8	0.8	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	3.5	2.8	4.0
Part time	'000	3.8	3.3	2.7	1.2	1.8	0.5	0.4	0.5	4.3	4.8	6.0
Total	'000	4.4	3.6	3.1	1.3	2.2	0.6	0.5	0.6	5.1	5.1	6.8
Unemployed												
Looking for f/t work	'000	3.9	2.6	3.3	1.4	1.7	0.5	0.4	0.3	4.6	4.2	6.3
Looking for p/t work	'000	3.8	3.7	2.8	1.2	2.0	0.5	0.1	0.5	4.8	4.6	6.5
Total	'000	5.6	4.6	4.4	1.9	2.6	0.7	0.4	0.7	6.7	6.1	9.0
Labour force	'000	4.8	4.0	3.4	1.5	2.3	0.7	0.5	0.6	5.6	5.6	7.5
Not in labour force	'000	5.9	4.7	3.6	1.8	2.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	6.7	6.4	8.9
Unemployment rate												
Looking for f/t work	pts	4.4	5.8	5.7	7.7	4.6	8.6	6.9	11.7	2.8	4.4	2.4
Looking for p/t work	pts	2.4	2.5	2.4	3.2	3.2	3.8	4.0	4.9	1.9	1.5	1.2
Total	pts	2.2	2.3	2.6	3.4	2.6	3.8	4.1	4.5	1.6	1.5	1.1
Participation rate	pts	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.4	2.0	3.3	2.6	0.7	0.8	0.5
Unemployment to population ratio – looking for f/t work	pts	0.8	0.7	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.6	2.2	1.4	0.6	0.6	0.4



## GLOSSARY

<b>Actively looking for work</b>	Includes written, telephoned or applied to an employer for work; had an interview with an employer for work; answered an advertisement for a job; checked or registered with a Job Services Australia provider or any other employment agency; taken steps to purchase or start your own business; advertised or tendered for work; and contacted friends or relatives in order to obtain work.
<b>Actual hours of work</b>	<p>Actual hours of work refers to a specified reference period and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ hours actually worked during normal periods of work;</li> <li>■ time spent in addition to hours worked during normal periods of work (including overtime);</li> <li>■ time spent at the place of work on activities such as the preparation of the workplace, repairs and maintenance, preparation and cleaning of tools, and the preparation of receipts, time sheets and reports;</li> <li>■ time spent at the place of work waiting or standing by; and</li> <li>■ time corresponding to short rest periods.</li> </ul> <p>Excluded are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ hours paid for but not worked, such as paid annual leave, public holidays or paid sick leave;</li> <li>■ meal breaks; and</li> <li>■ time spent on travel to and from work (excluding some self-employed).</li> </ul> <p>For multiple job holders actual hours worked should equal the hours worked at all jobs.</p>
<b>Aggregate monthly hours worked</b>	<p>Aggregate monthly hours worked measures the total number of actual hours worked by employed persons in a calendar month. It differs from the actual hours worked estimates (and the usual hours worked estimates) since these refer only to the hours worked in the reference week.</p> <p>The methodology used to produce aggregate monthly hours worked means that these are synthetic estimates. Seasonally adjusted and trend estimates of aggregate monthly hours worked are available for the period July 1978 onwards.</p> <p>Further information on the methodology used to produce the aggregate monthly hours worked estimates is available on the ABS website in <i>Information Paper: Expansion of Hours Worked Estimates from the Labour Force Survey</i> (cat. no. 6290.0.55.001).</p> <p>Actual and usual hours worked cannot be aggregated across time to produce either quarterly or annual estimates as they relate to only a single week in the month. In contrast, aggregate monthly hours worked estimates are a true monthly measure, and may be aggregated across time to produce both quarterly and annual estimates.</p>
<b>Attending full time education</b>	Persons aged 15–24 years enrolled at secondary or high school or enrolled as a full time student at a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college, university, or other educational institution in the reference week.
<b>Attending school</b>	Persons aged 15–19 years enrolled at secondary or high school in the reference week.
<b>Attending tertiary educational institution full time</b>	Persons aged 15–24 years enrolled full time at a TAFE college, university, or other educational institution in the reference week, except those persons aged 15–19 years who were still attending school.
<b>Civilian population aged 15 years and over</b>	All usual residents of Australia aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.
<b>Composite Estimation</b>	The estimation methodology used in the Labour Force Survey. Composite Estimation uses sample responses from nearby months as well as from the reference month to derive estimates for the reference month. This approach achieves gains in efficiency by exploiting the high similarity between the responses provided by the same respondent in

## GLOSSARY *continued*

<b>Composite Estimation</b> <i>continued</i>	previous months. For details see <i>Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007</i> (cat. no. 6292.0).
<b>Employed</b>	<p>All persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or</li> <li>■ worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or</li> <li>■ were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ away from work for fewer than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or</li> <li>■ away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or</li> <li>■ away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or</li> <li>■ on strike or locked out; or</li> <li>■ on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ were employers or own account workers, who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.</li> </ul>
<b>Employment to population ratio</b>	For any group, the number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group.
<b>Estimated resident population (ERP)</b>	Estimated resident population (ERP), is Australia's official measure of the population of Australia and is based on the concept of usual residence. It refers to all people, regardless of nationality, citizenship or legal status, who usually live in Australia, with the exception of foreign diplomatic personnel and their families. It includes usual residents who are overseas for fewer than 12 months. It excludes overseas visitors who are in Australia for fewer than 12 months. Refer to <i>Australian Demographic Statistics</i> (cat. no. 3101.0).
<b>Flow estimates</b>	Flow estimates are a measure of activity over a given period. For example, aggregate monthly hours worked is a measure of the total number of hours worked in a calendar month.
<b>Full time workers</b>	Employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and those who, although usually working fewer than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.
<b>Gross flows</b>	<p>The matching of respondents who report in consecutive months enables analysis of the transition of individuals between the different labour force status classifications, referred to as the matched sample. The transition counts between the different labour force status classifications from one point in time to the next are commonly referred to as gross flows.</p> <p>The figures presented in gross flows are presented in original terms only and do not align with published labour force estimates. The gross flows figures are derived from the matched sample between consecutive months, which after taking account of the sample rotation and varying non-response in each month is approximately 80 percent of the sample.</p> <p>Caution should be exercised when analysing these gross flows data due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ the figures presented sum to approximately 80 percent of the population values as the gross flows data are based on the matched sample only;</li> <li>■ there is no adjustment applied to account for changes due to seasonal patterns (referred to commonly as seasonal adjustment); and</li> <li>■ the estimates of relative sizes of each transition class are subject to bias due to the matched sample being a non-representative sample.</li> </ul>
<b>Labour force</b>	For any group, persons who were employed or unemployed, as defined.

## GLOSSARY *continued*

<b>Labour force status</b>	A classification of the civilian population aged 15 years and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force, as defined. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions adopted by the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians.
<b>Labour force underutilisation rate</b>	The sum of the number of persons unemployed and the number of persons in underemployment, expressed as a proportion of the labour force.
<b>Long-term unemployed</b>	The number of persons unemployed for 52 weeks or over.
<b>Long-term unemployment ratio</b>	The number of long-term unemployed persons, expressed as a percentage of the total unemployed population.
<b>Market sector</b>	The market sector is an industry grouping comprising the following industries: Agriculture, forestry and fishing; Mining; Manufacturing; Electricity, gas, water and waste services; Construction; Wholesale trade; Retail trade; Accommodation and food services; Transport, postal and warehousing; Information media and telecommunications; Finance and insurance services; Rental, hiring and real estate services; Professional, scientific and technical services; Administrative and support services; Arts and recreation services; and Other services. Refer to <i>Australian National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods</i> (cat. no. 5216.0).
<b>Non-market Sector</b>	The non-market sector is an industry grouping comprising the following industries: Education and training; Public administration & safety; and Health care and social assistance. Refer to <i>Australian National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods</i> (cat. no. 5216.0).
<b>Not in labour force</b>	Persons who were not in the categories employed or unemployed, as defined.
<b>Participation rate</b>	For any group, the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.
<b>Part time workers</b>	Employed persons who usually worked fewer than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week or were not at work during the reference week.
<b>Response rate</b>	The number of fully responding dwellings expressed as a percentage of the total number of dwellings excluding sample loss. Examples of sample loss include: dwellings where all persons are out of scope and/or coverage; vacant dwellings; dwellings under construction; dwellings converted to non-dwellings; derelict dwellings; and demolished dwellings.
<b>Seasonally adjusted series</b>	A time series of estimates with the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation removed. See Explanatory Notes paragraphs 28 to 32 for more detail.
<b>Stock estimates</b>	Stock estimates are a measure of certain attributes at a point in time and can be thought of as <i>stocktakes</i> . For example, the total number of employed persons is an account of the number of people who were considered employed in the Labour Force Survey reference week.
<b>Trend series</b>	A smoothed seasonally adjusted series of estimates. See Explanatory Notes paragraphs 33 to 36 for more detail.
<b>Underemployment rate</b>	The number of underemployed workers expressed as a percentage of the labour force.
<b>Underemployed workers</b>	Employed persons aged 15 years and over who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have. They comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ persons employed part time who want to work more hours and are available to start work with more hours, either in the reference week or in the four weeks subsequent to the survey; or</li> <li>■ persons employed full time who worked part time hours in the reference week for economic reasons (such as being stood down or insufficient work being available). It is assumed that these people wanted to work full time in the reference week and would have been available to do so.</li> </ul>

## GLOSSARY *continued*

<b>Unemployed</b>	Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ had actively looked for full time or part time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or</li><li>■ were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.</li></ul>
<b>Unemployed looking for full time work</b>	Unemployed persons who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ actively looked for full time work; or</li><li>■ were waiting to start a new full time job.</li></ul>
<b>Unemployed looking for part time work</b>	Unemployed persons who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ actively looked for part time work only; or</li><li>■ were waiting to start a new part time job.</li></ul>
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.
<b>Unemployment to population ratio</b>	For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group.
<b>Usual hours of work</b>	Usual hours of work refers to a typical period rather than to a specified reference period. The concept of usual hours applies both to persons at work and to persons temporarily absent from work, and is defined as the hours worked during a typical week or day. Actual hours worked (for a specific reference period) may differ from usual hours worked due to illness, vacation, strike, overtime work, a change of job, or similar reasons.







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